

SCIENCE FOR LAY READERS

EDUCATION: THE TRAINING OF INDUSTRIAL CHEMISTS

Sir William Ramsay, the well-known English chemist, has expressed the view that in the industrial competition of the future that country will win which will have the best chemists. Similar views are rapidly spreading among all others who have studied attentively the history, especially the recent history, of supply. And no wonder. Materials of one kind or another are involved in every imaginable form of human activity; the results of multiplying, improving, and cheapening them constitute a large measure of our industrial progress, and are indispensable to it; and the best results are, of course, most likely to be obtained by the best-trained chemists.

The question, therefore, as to what constitutes the best training for an industrial chemist is of moment, not to chemists alone, but to the community at large, and especially to those many who are in any way connected with the arts and manufactures. It was raised, we are pleased to learn, at a recent meeting of the American Chemical Society, in an interesting paper read by Mr. J. B. F. Herreshoff, himself a practical chemist of wide experience. In Mr. Herreshoff's opinion, useful industrial ideas can only come "from a brain that can think in both chemistry and engineering"; yet the chemical courses in our colleges and institutes of technology include no engineering at all. Outside of some mathematics, natural science, and languages, the student devotes his time to pure chemistry; he attends lectures in inorganic, organic, and physical chemistry, and takes extensive laboratory courses in inorganic analysis, qualitative and quantitative, and in organic preparations. In technological schools he further takes a general course, necessarily very limited, on the principal applications of chemistry in the arts, and thereupon his equipment is assumed to be complete, and he is thrown out into the community as a well-baked industrial chemist. Helpless youngster that he really is, he does not at all feel in a position to choose, and he eagerly applies for the first situation that he hears to be vacant. And, backed up by the prestige of his alma mater, whose stately halls inspire awe of the deep lore in the heads of her sons, he gets the "job." Stately halls notwithstanding, his salary is small indeed, and he soon learns that "business is business"—that his employer expects the arrangement to pay, and pay, not in the long run, but pretty soon, perhaps immediately. Now, if the "job" happens to consist in purely analytical work, in which two years of college laboratory have given him actual experience, the young chemist is likely to acquire a rather favourable opinion of human nature, and find his employer a tolerably pleasant man. True, he is likely to remain hopelessly poor, the average employer having now learned that the usually simple and uniform analytical tests can also often be carried out by high school boys, glad to work for a few dollars a week; but this, of course, has nothing to do with the chemist's education. If, on the other hand, our chemist's "job" happens to be more along manufacturing lines, his potential usefulness to society is likely to remain potential for an uncomfortably long period, during which his peregrinations are likely to surpass even those of Chamisso's Schlemihl, the man that had no shadow. What does he lack? Mr. Herreshoff, and with him other prominent members of the Chemical Society, think it is a knowledge of engineering, principally mechanical engineering. As a matter of fact, the problem of manufacturing a substance on an industrial scale is very far being identical with that of preparing a few grains of it in the laboratory. Questions as to the mechanical outfit calculated to ensure the largest yield and the best quality at the same time involving a minimum of labor, especially skilled labor, are in the factory bound up indissolubly with the purely chemical aspects of the problem. A thorough knowledge of the mechanical rigup and possibilities may suggest to the chemist experiments that he would otherwise never think of at all, or else reject as absurd without a trial, and yet which, as experience shows, may lead to important improvements. So, whether he is called upon to direct the factory operations in the capacity of technical manager, or to carry on laboratory research with a view to their improvement, the chemist ought to have a knowledge of mechanical engineering. And hence it would seem that our technical colleges and institutes ought to organize courses in "chemical engineering" in which training in mechanical engineering would play a conspicuous role.

To this, however, several experienced educators raise a very grave objection. So extensive and complex a science has chemistry now become, that it is more difficult for one mind completely to grasp it alone than it was fifty years ago to grasp all the sciences together. The student, usually honest and poor, cannot afford to spend in college more than four years, and during these it is all but impossible to impart to him a really thorough knowledge of the various chemistries alone. Should his time be further divided between chemistry and two or three useful kinds of engineering, with a view to making him at once a chemist and an engineer, the result would be that he would come out neither a chemist nor an engineer, but even more of a problem to wrestle with, both for himself and for his employers. The shadow would be acquired at the expense of flesh and bones. But, if we may venture a suggestion, the entire matter is further complicated by still another circumstance. In many industrial establishments—indeed, not purely chemical, but still employing chemists—the latter are often called upon to produce, not chemical substances proper, but cheap materials possessing certain required sets of properties, such as strength, hardness, elasticity, resistance to the attack of certain chemicals on to atmospheric action, etc. Chemistry, the science of individual substances, is far from being the art of compounding such materials, the latter being ordinarily the product of innumerable, almost random, trials. Nevertheless, in such work too, the chemist, with his "chemical sense," properly trained, is sure to outstrip the artisan. Proper training in this direction would seem to consist in a knowledge of the chemical composition, properties, and cost of the various crude natural products and the by-products of manufactures, combined with some workshop experience in determining variations of properties with variations of composition, and in systematically directing those

variations toward the production of a desired combination of properties. Such work is often of immense industrial importance; and, though of necessity largely empirical, it is certainly not beneath the dignity of anybody, some of the most brilliant chemists of the past century having thus fruitfully employed part of their time. We know of many chemists who, early in their career, were unable to improve excellent opportunities because of gross ignorance of the available products and because of total lack of experience in handling them; for such products, being comparatively unimportant from a purely scientific point of view, usually receive very scant treatment in college text-books of chemistry. Of course, such knowledge, like that of engineering, may be gradually acquired in practical work; but with a somewhat impatient employer the opportunities for the gradual acquisition of knowledge are naturally very limited.

Being given then, on the one hand, the practical necessity of increasing the college curriculum and, on the other hand, the practical impossibility of doing so, the situation would present a sad puzzle, if the state of affairs in Germany were not, as it is, highly satisfactory. Those philosophical Germans who criticise practical reason are reasonably practical after all, and their example may be well worth following, especially as they have contributed more than any other nation to the development of the chemical industries, while we, as all men know, have done nothing new worth speaking of. The German manufacturer, it seems, has grasped clearly the importance of maintaining a research laboratory in connection with his works, and has learned by experience that, costly as it may be, it pays in the end to do so. In a speech before the Liberal League, Mr. Haldane, an English manufacturer, affirms that the decline of the British industries is due, not to protective duties keeping English products out of foreign markets, but to the actual inferiority of English products. He gives an excellent instance (quoted by Mr. Herreshoff from the "Spectator" for December 6, 1903): "The German manufacturers make a finer quality of cellulose than the English manufacturers. We have not yet succeeded in making it as white as they do, and for many of the uses to which celluloid is now put, whiteness is an essential quality. How did the German manufacturers set about obtaining this whiteness? Twelve of them combined and put down £100,000, providing besides £12,000 a year, and in one of the suburbs of Berlin, near the great university, founded an institution which we have nothing like in this country. They had the most distinguished professor of chemistry they could get from the University of Berlin at the head of it; they gave him a large salary; they employed under him the best, highly technically trained assistants that the university and the technical schools of Berlin could produce. . . . The investigators were set to work, and we were beaten nearly out of the field."

Contrasting now the German methods with those pursued in the United States, we find that while many manufacturing houses in Germany employ each several hundred chemists (for instance, the Badische Anilin und Soda Fabrik employs over four hundred), our manufacturers of twenty-five years ago seldom employed any chemists at all, and to-day few employ more than one chemist; while this one chemist is expected to possess from the very start all the knowledge and practical readiness necessary to an industrial investigator and manager, the functions of the German chemist are usually much more limited, and for the adequate performance of those functions he is gradually and thoroughly trained, after leaving the university or the institute, and at the expense of his employer, by serving a more or less prolonged apprenticeship under men of experience in the given industry; and being thus properly guided, the German chemist does useful work from the very beginning of his career, while our chemists often spend their first few post-graduate years in useless attempts at doing things that are necessarily beyond them, the result of which cannot but be discouragement to them, selves and pecuniary losses to their employers. In course of the discussion that followed the reading of Mr. Herreshoff's paper at the meeting of the Chemical Society, Dr. Schweitzer, an industrial chemist of both German and American experience, therefore expressed the view that it is not our chemist, but our employer that needs more education, and so, he concluded, "let us all work for the education of the chemical employer and capitalist." This is disagreeable to listen to; for it conveys the insinuation that some of our captains of industry (perhaps millionaires!) have not brain enough thoroughly to understand their own business and hence do not accomplish as much as they should for our industries. But be it as it may, the subject is altogether too important for any phase of it to be properly left out of the inquiry. The gentlemen of the Chemical Society should not drop it, and manufacturers should seriously consider it. Any contribution to the clearing up of the chemist's puzzle and to the improvement of existing conditions will be so much a service rendered to the community.

The Simla Municipality have accepted estimates of Rs. 44,000 for improving the water supply, which is already showing signs of running short. Orders were passed by the Additional Magistrate of Rangpo on Saturday in the defamation case brought by Leng Soon, of Mogul Street, against Ram Krishna, a son of the proprietor of the Frayer Press, on a charge of having printed circulars, two of which were sent to the complainant by post, entitled "History of the Daughters of Leng Soon and Mi Gyi." The circulars were printed in Burmese and were concluded in the most obscene language. His Worship found the accused guilty and sentenced him to pay a fine of Rs. 5,000, or in default, three months simple imprisonment.

IT WORKS LIKE MAGIC.—The relief obtained from Chamberlain's Pain Balm when applied to a burn or scald is so nearly instantaneous that it seems almost magical in its effect. An injury of this kind heals without maturation when this remedy is applied and unless the wound is very severe does not leave a scar. For sale by Smith Stanistreet and Co., Wholesale Agents, B. K. Paul and Co., Abdul Rahaman and Abdul Kareem, Calcutta.

TSAR AND SULTAN.

RUSSIA'S APPEAL FOR HELP.

The "Muhammadan" of the 18th April gives publicity to translations of a letter from the Tsar to H. H. the Sultan of Turkey and His Highness's reply. The Tsar of all the Russias asked for the "loan" of 300,000 men and permission to send the Black Sea fleet through the Dardanelles. The correspondence, which is very interesting and even instructive at this critical juncture, reads as follows:—

TSAR'S PITEOUS APPEAL FOR HELP.

Sir,—I like my father, respect you, since I sat on the throne, the friendly relations between us have been on the increase. Never has there been any ill-feeling created, nor will it ever be. Though Russia and Turkey have for several centuries been sword in hand against one another yet our wars have proved to be highly beneficial and they have brought us so close that we are now spending our days like real brothers. You know, I presume, that hostilities have been declared against Japan and they are carried on quite against the International Law. I have from the outset been pursuing a peaceful policy and I had no desire for war. Japan was no match for me so that I might get ready for war against it, but the Japanese ships treacherously attacked my ships at the dead of night a time when correspondence was going on and thus inflicted heavy loss. The news I received at the outset in relation thereto, was favourable, but on the following day when I was engaged in a ball given in honor of the reported victory I received a message from Admiral Alexieff sent by a special messenger that a nasty defeat was sustained at Port Arthur and that all the best ships were either sunk or burnt. On the receipt of the message I dissolved the meeting and with a painful heart went into a lonely room, where there was none excepting my wife. I wept and my tears were wiped off by my sympathising wife. The grief thus caused at the outset has increased to such an extent that I am now tired of my life.

My Government and my officers tried to secrete the news of the reverses sustained, but could not do so. It is a quite incomprehensible mystery how those messages got out ere I received them. My Empire is agitated and insurrection is feared in many a province. Your Majesty knows who is the provoker of this war and who is helping Japan. My Envoy at your Court might have communicated all this to your Majesty. England has in fact entangled me in this difficulty. My naval officers have seen the English, by means of a telescope working on board the Japanese vessels. The Chinese are being instigated to get ready against me and measures are being concerted to create an insurrection in Central Asia and Poland which lies between Germany and Russia and which has already been divided between the two countries is now getting refractory and it would be no wonder if your Majesty should receive news of fighting in the place shortly.

France and Germany have also turned against me and this is the time for rendering aid. If your Majesty should espouse my cause I would be successful, and would be saved from total destruction. The reason why I intend to invade India is to divert England's attention from Japan so that she may cease helping that country by devoting herself in the defence of her own. I promise to be a friend at heart and will never forget the favor until death. I know I am lowered in your estimation by misrepresentation that I was the cause of the Macedonian trouble. Never was such an act perpetrated by me nor will it ever be. My Minister for Foreign Affairs was foolish in that he accepted an invitation from Prince Ferdinand of Bulgaria and attending the Shupka meeting gave vent to absurd remarks. He is blamable in this respect and I have nothing to do with this. I swear by Jesus Christ that I am quite overpowered and am obliged to act in accordance with the opinion of my officers. I wish not to be influenced by them but fear of life compels me to yield. I am the master of 1-12 of the world's population and in possession of 1-6 part of the world and of an army of 4 millions yet be pleased to believe that the internal condition is worth sympathising with. I am helpless. I find no sympathiser excepting my wife on whom alone I can depend. If I get sick I tremble to subject myself to a doctor for treatment, lest he should administer poison. If a doctor should come and give medicine I would not take it. My life is thus in danger and what I suffer is known to God alone. In such a state of mental agony and ponderation, my eyes have fallen on you in hope of help. Three hundred thousand soldiers would save my life. I would not send them to the battlefield but would retain them in places occupied by Muhammedans who may thus be prevented from revolting against me. I do hereby promise that if I should get over this difficulty successfully, I would help you in getting all the European Provinces and would also forego the debt due to me and hand over to you Kars and Batoum which are held as a security for the debt.

Further I beg to request that my navy in the Black Sea may be allowed to go to China through the Dardanelles and thus to revive my naval power. Your Majesty should not be misled by England or any other European Power. It is hoped that I will not return disappointed from the threshold of the Ottoman Empire without getting these my two requests acceded to. As I rely on your Majesty's army, I ask it to enter my territory otherwise as it is known no Empire would allow alien troops to pass through it. I end my letter as I do not wish to trouble you with any further lengthening. In conclusion, I shall only mention that I would use my full power to punish Japan for its treachery without minding above the distance which tends to thwart my object. I am now fighting with three Powers Japan, England and America, and the fourth—a half dead empire—China, is about to rise against me. I hope my Lord Jesus Christ will grant me success over these contemptible idolaters and over those who aid them.

Your ever friendly,
(Sd.) NICHOLAS.

St. Petersburg.

Colonel Montgomery has been appointed to officiate as Financial Commissioner of the Punjab, vice Sir Lewis Tupper, on leave.

The new land telegraph line through Central Persia will be opened for public traffic very soon, as through communication with India via the Quetta-Nushki route has been established.

THE SULTAN'S REPLY.

Sir,

I received your favour which was sent to me by a special Envoy. I am much obliged for your thus remembering me. I am very grieved to hear of your deplorable condition. May God dispel your grief and sorrow and take pity on you. I have read the account in your letter of the treachery of Japan, which is quite possible as it is no uncommon thing for nations to act in this way at times in violation of law and equity. I am at present not prepared to accept that England espouses the cause of Japan practically. You should not believe it on the misrepresentation of your Ministers who entangled you in war against your will, lest they might involve you in difficulty with England as well and thus your old and splendid Empire may suffer dismemberment. The idea of invading India ought to be far from an enlightened Emperor like you. You should undertake the task with careful consideration. In such matters though the opinion of Ministers generally prevails, yet you should also use your own sense. In the naval and land fights that have occurred up till now Japan has gained the victory and your squadrons have retreated. In such a case to declare hostilities against a most powerful country like England is to collect materials for your own destruction. So far as I am informed through my Foreign Department I can say that England's power in India is very strong, she is ruling India not by the sword but by law and equity. About 32 or 33 crores of people live under its shadow comfortably. The difference in religion in India is not to be found in any other part of the world. It is owing to England's good government that no strife of any kind occurs there and all live peaceably. I am well acquainted with your government and treasury. I admit that you have a considerable army, but it cannot reach Cashmir without money, conveyances and good management, nor will the Amir Habibulla Khan allow your army to cross the Indian frontier easily. The invasion of India will open the door of war widely, when no power can prevent England to lay siege to St. Petersburg. Hence I will never advise you to strain your relations with England.

As to the Macedonian rebellion, I am constrained to believe that you are not the instigator thereof, but neither I nor you can deny the fact that your Government is the cause of it. Who is not aware that Bulgaria is my tributary State, and that it is unable to cope with me. If your foreign member had not taken part in the Shupka meeting and advised the Bulgarians to keep their powder dry, there would have been no insurrection in Macedonia. The words used by you in your letter about your innocence were also used by Grand Duke Nicholas when he came to see us at Constantinople after the Shupka meeting, and in addition to this he apologised very much. How can I ignore your Government's acts? This is a point for your consideration.

Your statement as to your inability creates fear in me. If your troops were to invade Turkey as in 1877 on any pretext at any time, you might say that you were not willing but your Ministers compelled you to declare hostilities and how can it be possible for me to rely on your promises.

I thank you very much for your offer of aid for retaking European provinces and dealing this your offer on the ground that I am aware that this world belongs to God. He gives it to him whom He likes and takes away from him whom He does not. I want His aid alone as He is the owner and creator of all. I rely on Him alone. The injury we suffer is due to our misdeeds only and when we repent He pardons us for our sins and showers mercy on us and opens doors of well being for us. I have no desire to get European provinces freed as our ancestors gained them by the sword and lost them by the sword. When the great God takes pity on us we will take them. We have not brought anything from our house, all these were taken from your people alone.

As to giving three hundred thousand troops I have no objection, but it will not fire in case of rebellion in Islamic provinces, and it would be no wonder if they should join the rebels, devastate the country and thus cause friction between you and myself resulting in the declaration of hostilities. I am proud that my army is obedient to officers, but more so to Islam and hence I will not attack Muhammedans, nor can I order it to do so, hence I regret the request for three hundred thousand troops cannot be granted.

Your request for allowing your ships to pass the Dardanelles needs consideration. I think you are aware that a treaty has been concluded and renewed between European Powers and Turkey, containing signatures of your Minister as well that I should not allow ships of belligerents to pass through the Dardanelles. I am firm in my promise. Neither the International Law nor our religion permits us to break a promise. You might have heard, and it is presumed you remember well, that your troops entering the Afghan frontiers occupied Penjdeh in 1885, England, fearing war, requested to be allowed to pass through the Dardanelles but I declined on the same ground. Oh my sad friend, if I do not act according to treaties taking your deplorable condition into account, every Power will make a similar request at an emergency when my house will become quite insecure and the strong passage which has been made by me at an enormous cost will be lost.

This is the answer to your letter and I hope you will not be offended thereby, and when you read my answer in a just way you would recognise that my answer is perfectly right. I conclude with a prayer that God may take pity on your deplorable condition and pardoning your misdeeds point you out the right path. Amen!

(Sd.) ABDUL HAMID.

Constantinople.

CHAMBERLAIN'S COUGH REMEDY is the mother's favourite. It is pleasant, safe for children to take and always cures. It is intended especially for coughs, colds, croup and whooping cough, and is the best medicine made for these diseases. There is not the least danger in giving it to children for it contains no opium or other injurious drug and may be given as confidently to a babe as to an adult. For sale by Smith Stanistreet and Co., Wholesale Agents, B. K. Paul and Co., Abdul Rahaman and Abdul Kareem, Calcutta.

A GUN WHICH WILL CARRY NINETY MILES.

There is just now nearing completion in the workshops of the Scott Iron Company, Reading, U.S.A., a wire-tube gun which is guaranteed to be the most powerful in range ever constructed. To a "Tit-Bits" contributor the inventor, Mr. John Hamilton Brown, recently gave some particulars which cannot but be of interest to all English readers.

This remarkable piece of ordnance is known as a 6in. Brown wire gun, and it is calculated that the projectile will issue from its mouth at the record velocity of 3,500ft. per second, and at the conclusion of a thirty-mile trip will be able with ease to make its way through a 6in. steel plate. In its course the 100lb. shot will rise to a height of ten miles, or more than four miles higher than the loftiest peak of the Himalayas. This fearful instrument of war, which has been some twelve months in building, is scheduled to be ready for testing some time this month, and is the fore-runner of twenty-five similar guns which have been ordered by the United States Government.

In connection with this nearly completed piece of ordnance, Colonel James M. Ingalls, the greatest ballistic authority in America, has made some interesting calculations. "A 10in. Brown wire gun," he recently wrote to the inventor, "built on the proportions of your 6in. would have a range of more than fifty-nine miles, while its maximum ordinate highest point of flight would exceed seventeen miles. Following these calculations still farther, a 16in. gun would be capable of hurling a projectile ninety miles, thus rendering it possible for the French to shell London without leaving their own territory."

The inventor has for a great number of years been deeply interested in the building of ordnance, and his ambition has always been to construct a gun which would have all possibility of explosion. This he declares he has accomplished in the new wire gun, which, while being subjected to a pressure of less than 60,000lb. to the square inch, will be able to withstand 80,000lb.

The great strength and range of the gun lie in the employment of steel sheets forming the central tube, round which are wound many miles of steel wire. These plates, 308in. long, 26in. wide, and one-seventh of an inch thick, are cut into what are technically known as "trapezoids"—that is to say, strips measuring 26in. wide at one end and 43in. at the other, the length remaining the same, viz., 308in.

These trapezoids are slightly curved and then placed together, one over lapping the other in such a way that, while there are only seven layers at the muzzle, there are twenty-one at the breech. As soon as the trapezoids have been placed in position and clamped together the lining tube, made of forged steel, is forced in place under enormous hydraulic pressure.

Then comes the work of wrapping the gun in its miles upon miles of wire, every inch of which has previously been tested. This wire is not round, as readers might perhaps suppose, but square, and one-seventh of an inch thick. The process of winding is performed by means of a special machine of which Mr. Brown is also the inventor, and which subjects the wire to a pull of 2,500lb.

The tension strength on a square inch of this wire wrapping is equal to 225,000lb., so that it is calculated no known explosive would be capable of destroying the gun. When the wiring has been completed a jacket of steel is shrunken over the gun and the whole braced together in such a way that it is impossible to force the gun apart.

The weight of the gun is equally distributed, one-third being wire, one-third steel plates, and one-third steel forgings, etc. Besides being the strongest gun ever built Mr. Brown also claims that it is the cheapest, costing at the rate of less than 11d. per pound. The gun as it lies in its cradle at the Scott foundry is 313in. long, weighs 20,000lb., and is wrapped in coils of wire measuring between twenty-one and twenty-two miles in length.

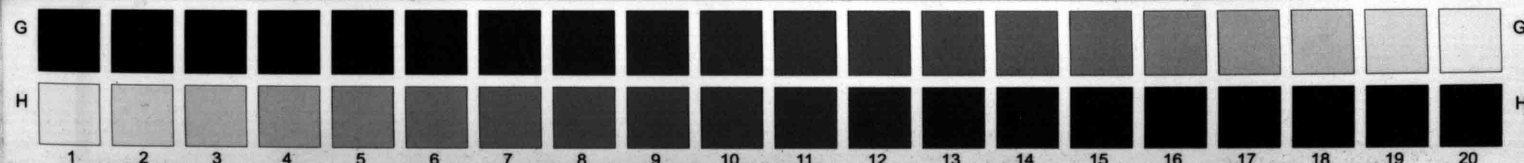
PARIS LOVE TRAGEDY.

A touching love tragedy has just been enacted in the woods of St. Remy-les-Chevres, not far from Paris. It appears that a young doctor named Daniel Renaud, aged twenty-five, had fallen deeply in love with a charming young actress named Mlle. Germaine Morhange, aged twenty-one, who three years ago took the first prize for declamation at the Conservatoire. They had made up their minds to get married, but the parents of Dr. Renaud, who reside in the department of the Vienne, objected, so that the wedding could not take place.

On Sunday morning, April 24, the lovers left Paris for an excursion to St. Remy-les-Chevres, and there they took their dejeuner, appearing both to be in gay spirits. Afterwards they went for a walk in the woods, and there evidently decided that they would end their days together, as they were not permitted to marry. At about four o'clock the gendarmes were informed that two bodies had been found lying close together in a little clearing, the man with a revolver in his hand. On investigation it was seen that the girl was not dead, but had merely lost consciousness after being wounded by a bullet which had struck her in the neck, and then lodged in the jaw. The doctor, however, was dead, being shot through the right temple.

Mlle. Morhange was taken to a neighbouring doctor's where she received treatment, and recovered consciousness, but her despair at her lover's death is so great that it is feared there is little hope of saving her life. She has been transferred to the Hospital de la Pitie.

HOW TO AVOID TROUBLE.—Now is the time to provide yourself and family with a bottle of Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy. It is almost certain to be needed before the summer is over, and if procured now may save you a trip to town in the night or in your busiest season. It is everywhere admitted to be the most successful medicine in use for bowel complaints, both for children and adults. No family can afford to be without it. For sale by Smith Stanistreet and Co., Wholesale Agents, B. K. Paul and Co., Abdul Rahaman and Abdul Kareem, Calcutta.



THE
Amrita Bazar Patrika.

CALCUTTA, MAY 26, 1904.

WHAT IS MEANT BY REFORM OF
THE POLICE.

UNDER the impulse of a boundless curiosity, the people wanted to know the result of the labours of the Police Commission. But hope being dashed to the ground by the publication of the summary of their report in the London "Times", curiosity naturally abated to a considerable extent. It is now known that the Commission have done no substantial good. The great statesman, Lord Curzon, announced to the world that he meant to regenerate India by introducing twelve reforms. What they were he would not tell. The people subsequently came to know that they had nothing to do with the eleven of the reforms, but the remaining one was of vital importance to them, namely, the reformation of the police.

This knowledge, that the police is to be reformed, came after the earnest appeal of Sir J. Woodburn to the supreme ruler of the land, urging that the greatest need of the country was the radical improvement of the Police. It was thus expected with great confidence that the Government was at last going to give the gentle and law-abiding people of India relief from the emasculating effects of the iron police rule that obtained in the country.

That hope was strengthened by the constitution of the Police Commission. The best civilian, that is to say, the most sympathetic official in India, Sir A. Fraser, was appointed President, and an Indian nobleman, holding a foremost position in the country, the Maharajah of Durbhanga, as a member.

Yet there was misgiving. Constituted as the Government is, the rulers and the ruled have opposite interests. The ruled have always complained and contended that an army of seventy-two thousand mercenary soldiers, imported from another country, at enormous costs, was a great wrong to India. Unaggressive as the people are, there is no need of maintaining such a large military force here. On the other hand, stricken down by famine and pestilence, this country is not in a position to do it. The Boer war proved conclusively that, at least half of these seventy-two thousand British troops are not required here and can be sent home safely.

All this is known very well to the rulers themselves. They know very well also that, relieved of the burden of this huge, unnecessary and costly army, India can under its present enlightened rule, be converted into a really prosperous country, to the benefit of both India and England. But yet the rulers could never be persuaded to reduce even a single regiment.

It is, besides, very well-known to the rulers that this importation of seventy-two thousands of its best young men, is a great wrong to England itself. What are mercenaries but blood-hounds in human shape? Squires keep hounds to hunt foxes; despotic Governments maintain mercenaries to kill or crush enemies. It is absolutely suicidal, on the part of England, to reduce so many of its healthiest, strongest, and bravest men into blood-hounds. And India is, besides, like hell to them. Here they are tortured, emasculated, and killed by barrack-life, by heat, by climate and other causes not necessary to mention. Yet the rulers will never agree to the project of reducing the white garrison.

The reason, why the rulers of India do not agree to meddle with this arrangement of maintaining so many thousand British soldiers in this country, is simply this, that they want these regiments for their own benefit, to make themselves irresistible. In the same manner, the rulers have made the police strong and blind, and obedient only to their will. The people of course need the police; but, they want it for another. The police, according to popular notion, is for the protection of the weak against the oppression of the strong,—for the maintenance of the society against its pests,—and also for the detection of crime. The police is needed, in the opinion of the officials, mainly to uphold their prestige and authority. Sir G. Campbell called the police "the watch dog of the Government."

By an efficient police the people mean a force which is incorruptible and loyal to their legitimate duties; an efficient police, according to official idea, is a body of men who will enforce the orders of the authorities at any cost. Therefore, the reformation of police means one thing to the people, and another to the officials. The police, according to the authorities, exists for the purpose of carrying out their will; accordingly, the stronger the police, the stronger is their position. It is thus to the interest of the authorities if the police force are strengthened.

In all countries, the police is the servant of the public. "No," say authorities here, "it is our servant." The police exists to detect crime and protect the weak. "That may be," say the authorities, "but it exists mainly to carry out our order." The people ought to have some authority over the police. "No," say the authorities, "the police ought to be absolutely independent of the people."

And thus when a Police Officer is accused of a crime he is, as a rule, backed by the Government. The head of the police is the Magistrate, and it is this Magistrate or his subordinates who try police cases. A Magistrate of Burdwan issued an order that no case against the police should be taken up without his sanction.

And, at the instance of the police, Mr. Carey, Magistrate of Murshidabad, the other day, instituted an outrageous proceeding against a highly respectable Zemindar of Azimgunge, which was quashed by the High Court.

Thus what the people wanted was to make the police less strong than it is, and sever its connection with the District Magistrate. What the Police Commission has recommended is to render the police more irresistible and burdensome by recruiting officers from England. It is not yet known whether it has suggested the separation of the police and the Magistracy in any form. Possibly it has not meddled with the question at all. And thus, beyond burdening the country with one crore of rupees, apparently no other result is to be expected from the labours of the Police Commission. As the ruler of Bengal, Sir Andrew Fraser may yet be graciously pleased to re-

commend the introduction of the Calcutta system throughout this Province, and thus render solid good to the eighty millions entrusted to his care.

FORTHCOMING ELECTION OF THE
DACCIA MEMBER.

JUDGING from past experiences, one cannot help regarding a vacancy in the Legislative Council with something like an unmitigated evil. We understand that there are already four candidates in the field for the Dacca seat,—namely, Kumar Mammoth Nath Roy Choudhury, Babu Dwarka Nath Chakraborty, Anath Bundha Guha, and Ambica Charan Mazumdar. As the reader knows, Kumar Mammoth Nath is an enlightened Zemindar of Santosh; Babu Dwarka Nath a distinguished Vakil of the High Court; and the other two are the distinguished members of the Mymensing and the Faridpur bar respectively. We are not absolutely certain whether Kumar Mammoth Nath has made up his mind, but this we know that some of his friends are pressing him to stand, and he is not likely to disoblige them. We thus see the spectacle of four leading men preparing to fight for a single seat in the Council, and the prospect can hardly be cheering; for we all know what disastrous results have proceeded from canvassing during elections.

Now these elections can be likened to a tornado, for, they leave behind broken hearts and other traces of their destructive fury. We all know how the Government of Bombay, in its zeal for stamping out plague, acted in a far worse manner than that monster itself did, by parting husbands and wives, mothers and children. But the elections have also destroyed live-long vows of friendship and fidelity. Who ever dreamt that Babu Surendra Nath Banerjee and the late Babu Dwarka Nath Ganguly would stand face to face in combat? Yet the latter brought some serious charges in the press, against the conduct of his life-long friend, while an election campaign was going on in the country.

During tornadoes roofs of houses are found stuck to the tops of trees; hares and tortoises are found flying together in the air; vultures are discovered perching on the pillows; and the buildings of two deadly enemies are carried bodily and placed side by side! These fantastic arrangements lead the ignorant to suspect that they are the work of some demons who, though mischievous, have a sense of humour in them. It would seem that, some such invisible powers guide the elections, for, while they commit dreadful havoc, they, at the same time, provide some amusement to the general public.

Who will deny that there is a grim humour in the spectacle of two excellent friends fighting for a seat in the Council and traducing each other's character with the malignity of the bitterest enemy? We very well remember how even two Secretaries of the Government were once drawn into the vortex of these elections, each enthusiastically supporting his particular candidate to discomfit the other. The fight was between Mr. W. C. Bonnerjee and Babu Raj Kumar Sarbadhary; and of the two distinguished Chief Secretaries of Sir Charles Elliott,—Mr. Cotton and Mr. Risley,—the first voted for Mr. Bonnerjee and the latter for Babu Raj Kumar, though both owning the same master. It is no doubt on record that even the mightiest Sultan could not always keep his two wives under control; but this was the first time that we saw the spectacle of an Indian autocrat like Sir Charles Elliott failing to make his two Secretaries act in concert.

We must confess, the spectacle of the appearance of four of our leading men in the field with the object of fighting for one seat is not an edifying one. On the other hand, it has the effect of giving rise to the saddest of reflections. In the spectacle of a number of our educated and worthy men creating bitterness amongst themselves and friends, for the purpose of securing an almost valueless glass-bead, thrown out by the Government, there is absolutely nothing which is pleasant.

Yet, if there is such a scramble, the people cannot be blamed for it. The spectacle may amuse those who may not bear any particular love for us. But it is exceedingly suggestive. It shows that though the leaders of the country are able and willing to help the Government without pay, in the work of administration, the authorities will not allow them to do so.

In short, if there is a rush and scramble whenever there is a vacancy in the Legislative Council, it is due to the unwillingness of the Government to permit the natives of the soil to take part in the administration of their own country. If the Council were expanded and a seat was opened for every district, the spectacle of four candidates fighting for one seat would have not presented itself. If the British Parliament could be controlled by seven hundred members, surely the addition of two or three dozen seats to the Bengal Council would not make that body an unwieldy one. But the Government would not agree to this arrangement; so the spectacle of half-a-dozen—sometimes even a dozen—men scrambling for one seat is inevitable during these elections.

The point now is, how to avoid the apprehended scandals in connection with the forthcoming election? Here is a way out of the difficulty. As there is only one seat and it cannot be divided into four parts, so it can fall only to the lot of one candidate. That being the case, why should not the four candidates settle amongst themselves as to which of them should retire, and which of them should remain?

But, as no one will agree to retire and ask the other to do it, so the suggestion we make is not a practical one. Here is however another. Of the four candidates three belong to Mymensing, and all these three are personal friends of Maharajah Soorja Kanta. Needless to say, they have also absolute confidence in him. So let them ask the Maharajah to choose one of them as a representative for Mymensing; and when he has done it, let the other two retire. We do not see what objection the three Mymensing candidates can have to this arrangement.

The other candidate, Babu Ambica Charan Mazumdar, is a Faridpur man. He may or may not agree to abide by the decision of Maharajah Soorja Kanta. If he does, then all chances regarding the apprehended scandals disappear at a swoop. If he is not agreeable, then the contest will be confined to only two men,—between him and the Mymensing candidate; and this is certainly better than the sight of four men scrambling for a single seat and making themselves and others miserable. As regards these two candidates, well,

after they have canvassed for a fortnight, they may compare each other's notes, and the weaker one may retire quietly leaving the field entirely to his rival.

When sober men like the members of the British Indian Association, the Landholders Association and the Calcutta University are apt to amaze the public by performing extraordinary somersaults during these elections, we are justified in taking such a serious and gloomy view of the situation. The fact is, one of the inevitable evils of the elective system is the active canvassing which a candidate thinks he is bound to carry on in order to be successful. The real friends and well-wishers of the country should do all they could to discourage this demoralizing practice. We think, by acting up to our suggestion, made above, it is quite possible to have our representatives elected, without throwing the country in a delicious excitement, by copying the Western method in its entirety.

FILIPINOS AND INDIANS.

THE letter of our London correspondent, comparing the condition of the Filipinos under the Americans with that of the Indians under the British, is so interesting, instructive, and hope-inspiring that we make no apology in giving it a most prominent insertion in our editorial columns. We dare say it will be read with profit by every member of the ruling race who has a drop of sympathy for the people of this country. As for the Indians they will also find much in it to remove the despondency which now fills the mind of the entire nation. For, coming from the same noble stock, it will be impossible for the English to accord a worse treatment to the Indians than what their Yankee cousins propose to mete out to the Filipinos, specially when the people of India are far more enlightened than those of the Philippines. But let our correspondent speak:—

"THE PLACE WHERE LORD CURZON
COULD PROFITABLY SPEND
HIS LOUANGE."

I learn from an exceptionally good American friend of India, living in South Carolina, with whom I am in frequent correspondence, that a Society exists in Boston, Massachusetts, the object of which is to combat American Imperialism as applied to the Philippines.

This is good hearing. That most unjust feature of Twentieth Century civilization which is called Imperialism needs to be fought everywhere. Whether it be strong in itself and very strongly entrenched, as in India, or whether it be weak and puny, as in the Philippines, and destined to be graciously overthrown in a few years by those who created it—everywhere it is an enemy to all that is inherently good in relation to humanity, while it is the most flagrantly unjust force wherever its baleful influence is exerted. It partly blinds itself, so that it sees only what it wants to see. When anyone acquainted with the rampant Imperialism of India, and the crushing burdens which it necessitates, regards the so-called Imperialism in the Philippines, to combat which, as I have said, a Society has been formed in the United States, the wonder grows as to what the freed-loving, justice-loving, American people would say if they were responsible for the enormous and ever-increasing injustice which Imperialism in India gaily and light-heartedly works. To the Indian the Philippines must seem a Paradise compared with his own country. I say nothing to-day of that "practical independence" which the Hon. Elihu Root, ex-Minister for War, recently announced as in sight for the Philippines, and which his successor, the Hon. Alexander H. Taft, with personal knowledge of the islands, will, probably, carry out. Upon that matter, on another occasion, I may have much to say. To-day I want to institute a comparison,—no, not a comparison, there is no comparison, but a contrast—between the one and the other. In respect alike to the Philippines and to India, facts shall, largely, speak for themselves.

1. "Home" Charges;—the "Drain":

"The Disbursements of Philippine Revenues in the United States", omitting the purchase of bullion, for the year ending October 31, 1903, amounted to a little over thirty-five lakhs of rupees, the exact figures being Rs. 35,11,983. "Distribution of Gross Expenditure of the Government of India in England" (charged against Revenue), again omitting purchases of bullion, for the latest year recorded in the Statistical Abstract, amounted to two thousand four hundred and five lakhs, the exact figures being Rs. 24,05,29,825.

The difference is so enormous, and the last charge so preposterous, that to properly emphasize the difference, the figures may be put in another form:

Official India's payments

in England in 1901-2 ... Rs. 24,05,29,825

Official Philippine's payments in the United States in 1903 ... 35,11,983

Rs. 23,70,17,842

That is to say, England every year takes away from India seventy-five times as much as the United States take from the Philippines! And, England has been taking away crores of rupees by the score every year for many, many years, while the States have only drawn their seventy-fifth part only for a few years, and will soon cease to draw any. Yet, in America, a Society has been formed to combat all that this "drain" means and to promote "practical independence", while in England no such Society exists in existence! It is the fact that, at the present moment, no Society exists in England with the definite object of ensuring honest and just administration in India, to say nothing of "practical independence". The most amazing feature of this unbecoming circumstance is that, in years past, even sixty years ago, such a Society existed. And things are now immensely more in need of such a Society to reform them than they were in the Forties of the Nineteenth Century, when the India Society flourished.

2. Education of Filipino Students in the United States:

On August 10, 1903, the Philippine Commission passed an Act providing for the education of Filipino students in the United States and appropriating for such purpose the sum of Rs. 216,000, with which to start the students on their work. The students are to be of two classes,—

a. Twenty-five to receive special tuition;

b. One hundred to receive general tuition;

thirteen of whom shall be selected and appointed for instruction in agriculture and the useful mechanical arts and sciences."

How does India compare with this? A simple statement in two contrasting columns will answer the question:—

British Indian Students in same ratio to population:

125 per annum 4,125 per annum.

That is to say, to act as fairly as the United States,—and after two hundred years rule in some parts of India England ought to be infinitely better, than these American tyros in Imperialistic governance,—England should send, annually, to the United Kingdom for instruction, more than four thousand students! Is it not one of Lord Curzon's most splendid achievements that he has arranged for a dozen Indian students, to be sent to England at India's expense! "There are," says the writer of the Report of the Bureau of Insular Affairs, at Washington, "at the present time (end of 1903) en route to the United States ninety-eight Filipinos to be educated as authorized by this Act, and this Bureau is engaged in making the preliminary arrangements for their reception and transportation to Southern California, where they will be placed in the various grammar and high schools of that section to avoid the rigorous climate of the East during their first winter. This number of students will be brought to the middle or eastern portion of the United States during the coming spring, and it is contemplated that an equal or greater number will be brought from the Philippines each succeeding year."

Let an Indian patriot conceive what grandly beneficial results would have followed in India if, during the nearly fifty years which have passed since the British monarch assumed direct rule and authority in India, a policy only half as good as that which is being carried out in the Philippines had been carried out in the Empire! Verily, the Americans have shamed their British cousins and have taught them a lesson in fair administration which should silence for ever the eternal boastings of the beneficence of British rule in India.

3. No Land Revenue in the Philippines!

In India direct taxation amounts to fifty-three an half crores of rupees (Rs. 53,50,00,000). Of this more than one-half, or twenty-eight crores (Rs. 28,15,00,000), comes from onerous crushing, heart-breaking, taxation of land. In the Philippines, apparently, taxation of the produce of the soil, in the sense adopted in England, is unknown. Here is the Filipino Revenue Budget for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1903:—

Rs. 6,08,60,000

Customs ... 3,88,00,000

Postal ... 5,88,000

Internal ... 8,92,000

Provincial ... 1,02,40,000

City of Manila ... 62,44,000

Miscellaneous ... 47,96,000

Rs. 6,08,60,000

If Indians were as well able to bear indirect taxation as are the Filipinos, they could pay in indirect taxes one hundred and fifty-nine crores (Rs. 159,00,00,000) whereas now they only pay twenty-six and a half crores (Rs. 26,50,00,000), and find that a heavy enough burden. This is a fact enough for patriots to ponder. In proportion to population the Filipinos, having no land tax to crush them to the soil, are—even after centuries of Spanish domination—able to pay, in indirect taxation,—a costly, alien, but sympathetic, administration—proportionately six times as much as the Indian's payment. By this most amazing fact-stricken men may learn how extremely poverty-stricken they have become in comparison with even such an Oriental people as the Filipinos.

4. No Salt Tax, No Stamps, No Assessed Taxes in the Philippines!

Let me invite the reader's attention to the sources of indirect taxation in the British-ruled Empire and in the Yankee-ruled tropical islands:

British India. Salt, Stamps, Excise, Provincial Rates, Customs, Assessed Taxes, Registration.

The Philippines. Customs, Postal, Internal, Provincial, City of Manila, Miscellaneous.

This is an object lesson, the force and significance of which should not—and I hope will not—be lost upon any reader of the "Patrika".

We withhold the concluding part of the long letter of our correspondent for to-morrow. This portion is even more interesting and instructive; for, it shows that, while the bulk of the Indian revenue is expended in England for the benefit of the rulers, the revenue raised in the Philippines is spent in the Philippines for the welfare of the children of the soil.

The Anglo-Indian Defence Association in their memorial to the Lieutenant-Governor

quotes the opinions of some Barristers in support of their contention, namely, that it is only a European, and not an Indian, Magistrate who can bind down a European British subject to keep the peace, and asks His Honour to promulgate an order to that effect. From the following exposition of the law by an esteemed lawyer, His Honour will, however, see that an Indian Magistrate is perfectly within the legal rights to take proceedings under section 107 of the Criminal Procedure Code, when the party concerned is a European:—

"The law depriving a native Magistrate of jurisdiction in the case of European British subjects is contained in section 443 Cr. C. P. That section lays down:—'No Magistrate unless he is a Justice of the Peace &c. &c. shall enquire into or try, and charge against a European British subject.'"

"Thus it is clear that the question whether the aforesaid section includes proceedings under section 107 depends entirely upon the meaning which the word 'charge' bears in the Code."

"In the former Code, i.e., the Code before that of 1898 (Act X of 1882) there was nothing like an interpretation of the word 'charge.'"

"It was in this state of things that certain quondam Advocate Generals were inclined to give their opinions in favour of deprivation of jurisdiction of native Magis-

trates in cases of proceedings under section 107. Even under the old Code, however, there were clear indications of the meaning of the word 'charge.' Chap. XIX of the Code was headed with the word 'of the Charge.' Section 221 of that chap. laid down what a 'charge' was to contain. And the following sections of that chap. dealt with other particulars regarding 'charge.'"

"These provisions clearly showed that the word 'charge' meant the statement of an offence for which a man might be tried under chap. XX (summons cases) under chap. XXII (warrant cases) under chap. XXIII (summary trials) and chap. XXIII (trials before Courts of Sessions) and in respect of which preliminary enquiries might be made."

"Unfortunately, however, the provision regarding 'charge' contained in chap. XIX are nearly discussed in the opinions given."

"The new Code while it reproduces the provisions of the old Code regarding 'charge' contains additionally a clause of interpretation of the word 'charge' in section 4 clause (c), which runs as follows:—'Charge' includes any heads of charge when the charge contains more heads than one."

"The above interpretation clearly shows that the word 'charge' means one or more formal statements of offence with which a trial is to begin."

"Section 107 contemplates no such statement or head of charge or heads of charge."

"All that the Magistrate is required to do is to make an order in writing setting forth the substance of the information received, the amount of the bond to be executed, the terms for which it is to be in force, and the number, character and class of sureties (if any) required."

"This provision is contained in section 112 of the Code."

"This order can in no way be treated as a charge looking to the provision of chap. XIX which treats of the charge and of the interpretation clause, section 4 clause (c)."

"When dealing with this question His Honour will no doubt take one important point into his consideration. When Mr. Sims moved the High Court to quash the proceedings of the Deputy Magistrate of Monghyr, one of the grounds urged by him was that, as a European, he was not subject to the Indian Magistrate. The Hon'ble Judges did not attach any importance to this ground. Their Lordships thus took the same view of the matter as the Deputy Magistrate and the District Magistrate did. Any interference with this case could thus be a direct interference with the judicial independence of the High Court. Surely Sir Andrew Fraser is the last person to allow such a thing; and we are really surprised that the Defence Association, which has always upheld the judicial independence of the High Court, should be advised to make such a proposition against its past tradition, for the satisfaction of mere race prejudice."

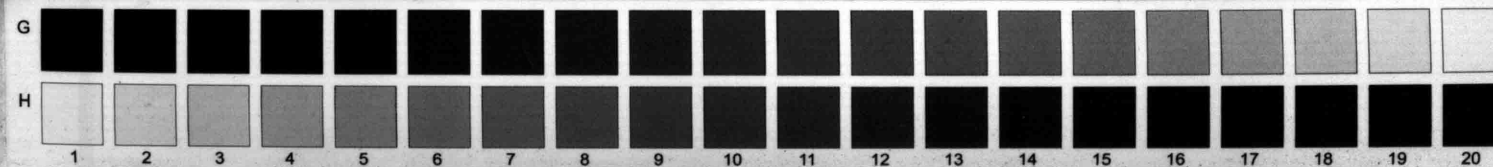
THE other day, our New York correspondent showed, by quoting from the American press, that the massacre of the Tibetans at Gura by the Indian troops, was highly condemned in the United States. Even pro-English newspapers in America were ashamed of the deed. But this time it is not an American or an Irish paper, but one of the most sober and influential organs of the English nation that takes the same view of the situation. This is what the London "Daily News" says:—

"It is in the 'Times' (which approves of Lord Curzon's policy) that we find a full and complete account of the massacre at Gura. We hardly know in what terms to comment upon this horrible narrative. The soldiers must have detested the bloody task which was set them, but they had no choice. They and their officers were under oath to obey the instructions of the Indian Government. The responsibility for this atrocity does not rest upon the heads of the troops, so wickedly employed. The Tibetans were meeting an armed invasion of their country. With perfect courtesy they requested the foreign force to retire. The British General replied by ordering the Tibetans to disarm, and, strange to say, numbers of them were docile enough to obey. Unfortunately, the tension led to a momentary deed of violence, which was re-venge on the side of the British by the despatch of a tornado of bullets. It is admitted that the firing was not a military necessity, but 'a punishment.' It is further recorded that the dead lay in heaps. And perhaps the most cynical touch of all is the 'Times' correspondent's regret that none of the four Tibetan leaders lived to tell the tale at Lhasa. It does not seem to have struck his mind that it is a shameful tale, which has caused great indignation far beyond the borders of the Lama's territory. We have always protested against Lord Curzon's utterly unnecessary interference with Tibet. But even if we grant that war was necessary, it ought not to have been undertaken treacherously, under the mask of peace."

The "peace mission" has thus been converted into a veritable bloody affair. Having never been conquered, the Tibetans are exhibiting all the bravery of an independent hardy mountain race. But, as an ill-armed people, without any military training, they are ultimately bound to be vanquished, perhaps almost exterminated, if they go on resisting the invasion in this way till the British force reaches Lhasa. From the particulars published elsewhere, it will be seen that, there was another fight on the 22nd May, in which twenty Tibetans were killed, while the casualties on the British side were two Sikhs killed, and one officer and three men wounded. We are told that, instead of being cowed down, the Tibetans are showing great courage and intelligence, and that their audacity is no less a revelation than their possession of modern arms. We very much wish that the glory of this expedition belonged entirely to English soldiers, and not to Indian Sepoys."

In his budget speech, Rai Tarinee Prosad drew a very important matter to the attention of the Bengal Government. Here are the words of the Hon'ble member for Bhagulpore:—

"I would beg to draw the attention of the Council to one more point in this connection. In reply to my remarks about the water supply in the district at the debate on the last year's Budget, the Hon'ble Mr. Collin, then Financial Secretary, was pleased to say in a letter addressed to me that Government 'would view with favour any attempt to revive the scheme put forward in Sir Alexander Macken-



zie's time, in 1896-97, chiefly by Mr. Risley, when it was proposed to introduce local permissive taxation to provide for local wants.

"We do not know whether it is still in the contemplation of Government to introduce such taxation, and, if so, what is the nature of it. In the absence of any definite knowledge on the subject, I do not think it proper to waste the Council's precious time by an elaborate examination of the subject. All that I at present feel bound to say is, that the suggestion of the then Hon'ble Financial Secretary has created alarm in the minds of the public, and will, if given effect to, bring a further strain upon the poor resources of the country already crippled by the burden of several taxes."

Neither His Honour the President of the Council nor the Hon'ble Financial Secretary vouchsafed any reply to the above. This silence on their part will naturally be regarded as ominous; for, if the Government had really no intention of imposing fresh taxation, Mr. Shirres might have at once removed all misconception on that score by a plain denial. Babu Tarinee Prosad quotes only a sentence from the letter addressed to him by Mr. Collin last year, but its full text, reproduced below, will cause serious alarm in the public mind:—

"Dear Sir,—I was sorry that I omitted to answer your remarks about water-supply in the district. I meant to have explained that Sir John Woodburn took up the matter and wished to introduce the Central Provinces system under which, so far as I understand the procedure, local taxation is introduced into every small local area, where the water-supply is deficient. This is ascertained by enquiry and by reference to health statistics. A local committee is formed to manage the expenditures and as soon as the want is supplied the Act ceases to be in force in that area. This system was so successful that last year an Act was passed in the Imperial Council giving wider power. I meant to have pointed out that the scheme was similar to that put forward in Sir Alexander Mackenzie's time in 1896-97 chiefly by Mr. Risley, when it was proposed to introduce local permissive taxation to provide for local wants. The scheme then fell through, because it was in advance of the time, but I would have suggested that Government would view with favour any attempt to revive it."

Is it possible that a scheme of further taxation in Bengal is really under the consideration of the Government, and that it was not announced, because the announcement would have been premature? The apparently studied silence of Mr. Shirres on the point, though pressed hard for a reply by Babu Tarinee Prosad, and his declaration that the Lieutenant-Governor himself had taken up the water-supply question in his own hands, will of course lead the public to suspect that the Government is seriously contemplating to throw another burden upon the overburdened shoulders of the people. The proposal of a water-rate in a definite form emanated from the Government of Sir Alexander Mackenzie in 1896. Sir Alexander first gave an intimation of the proposed tax through a Resolution, and this was followed by a Bill; but he had to abandon the measure in deference to public opinion, for, it met with universal opposition. Mr. Collin assures us that the Government of Sir John Woodburn also intended reviving the measure, and issued a circular letter to all District Magistrates inviting their opinions on the subject. As Sir John did not take any steps in this connection, so it may be fairly inferred that he too realized the undesirability of imposing fresh taxation and gave up the disagreeable task. We cannot persuade ourselves that, Sir Andrew Fraser, about whose sense of justice and superior morals there is no doubt, will agree, before he has been here even one full year, to create an unprecedented excitement all over the Province by inaugurating a measure which is unjustifiable and was abandoned by his two immediate predecessors. Yet everything is possible under the influence of modern imperialism, which has the effect of blinding the moral perceptions of even the best of Englishmen. Fancy that even Lord Northbrook was led to sanction the monstrous arrangement of fastening the cost of the Tibetan war upon starving India!

Referring to the case of the girl Soudamini Jugi, who was sentenced to transportation for life by the Sessions Judge of Dacca on a charge of murder and who was acquitted on appeal by the High Court, the "Tribune" remarks:—

"And, as readers of newspapers are aware, the present case is by no means a solitary instance of the High Court being instrumental in saving a life from the clutches of the lower courts. In other words, it is by no means rare for innocent lives to be sacrificed in India at the altars of Police incapacity, executive vagary, and judicial whimsicality."

The latest instance of "judicial whimsicality" comes from Tippera. One Amar Khan was tried by the Tippera Sessions Judge on a charge of murder, who convicted the accused and passed capital sentence upon him. The case came on in appeal before Mr. Justice Pratt and Mr. Justice Handley on Monday last. The Hon'ble Judges held that the case was not one in which "the extreme penalty of the law was demanded" and commuted the death sentence to one of transportation. In the same case, another accused who had been convicted of abetment of murder and sentenced to transportation for life by the same Sessions Judge, got his sentence reduced to six months' rigorous imprisonment! So this Tippera Judge has beaten even the famous Judge Mr. Aston hollow. The latter transported the editor of the "Protad" newspaper for life, but the Judges of the High Court reduced the sentence to 18 months. The Tippera Judge thus inflicted three times more punishment than his brother Mr. Aston did. Are these Judges themselves immaculate? Can they lay their hands on their breasts and declare that they never transgressed God's law? Surely, no human being, not even an Indian Judge, can say that. That being the case, how can they feel so ferociously towards an erring member of their own race? There is a greater Judge than Indian Judges, and they may rest assured that He will never forgive those who, dressed in authority, punish their fellow-beings more severely than what is absolutely needed. They may also rest assured that God, Who is the Fountain of Morality, will not excuse them if they try to take shelter for their unjustifiable acts under the immoral man-made laws of Government.

Mr. Justice Sale has found a champion in "Lawyer," who has rushed to the columns of the "Englishman" to announce a great feat achieved by the hon'ble Judge. Well, sometime ago, a judgment of Mr. Justice Sale was set aside on appeal to the High Court in its appellate jurisdiction. The case was then appealed to the Privy Council. And what was the result? The decision of the Appellate Bench was set aside, and that of Mr. Justice Sale upheld. And, from this, the writer seeks to prove that Mr. Justice Sale was right as regards his decision in the Bain case! But, is "Lawyer" aware how many decisions of Justice Sale, set aside by the Appellate Bench, have also been condemned by the Privy Council? We may one day publish the list and show the judicial acumen of Mr. Sale.

ONE Dayama Naik was put on his trial on a charge of murder before the Sessions Judge of Belgaum. The jury unanimously found the accused "not guilty." After such a pronouncement, the clear duty of the Judge was, to acquit the accused. But strange to say, the Judge of Belgaum not only differed from the jury but took upon himself the awful responsibility of making a reference to the Bombay High Court. The result was, that the Hon'ble Judges held that the jury were right in their verdict and acquitted the accused. The Sessions Judge was thus punished in two ways; first, he was humiliated, because, in the opinion of his superiors, the jury was a better Judge than himself; and secondly, he was deprived of the exquisite pleasure of getting a fellow-creature hanged.

SURELY the Indians are not going to be quietly deprived of a seat on the Bench of the Calcutta High Court! On the retirement of Dr. Gurudas Banerjee, a worthy successor of his in Babu Saroda Charan Mitter was selected and appointed in his place. This is all right. But the vacancy, caused by the retirement of Mr. Ameer Ali, remains unoccupied. We have thus now two, instead of three, Indian Judges. We understand that the Secretary of State for India has sanctioned the appointment of an Additional Judge for one year. Why should not this new Judge be an Indian? It is very desirable that this Indian should be a Mohomedan. The Hon'ble Moulvi Seraj-ul Islam might worthily fill up the post, if his age would not stand in the way. We do not know if he has completed his sixtieth year or not. If he has not, he is the fittest Mohomedan Vakil to succeed Mr. Ameer Ali. Next to his claim is that of Moulvi Mahomed Yusuff. If, through some reason or other, the new appointment cannot be given to a Mohomedan, then a Hindu Vakil ought to have it. It would be a gross injustice to the Indian community, if, instead of three as before, only two of its members are allowed to occupy seats on the High Court Bench.

The proposal for the establishment of a Sanitarium on a healthy spot close to Simla, for the open air treatment of consumptives, has for the present been abandoned.

The small European colony at Kabul is to receive fresh recruits from India, and already the services of a European Electrical Engineer have been secured, and another Engineer, well up in building works, will also proceed there to undertake the construction of the Amir's new place.

The Burma Government are causing special enquiries to be made into the present condition and prospect of rubber cultivation in the province. In Southern India can grow it profitably, as we believe is the case, Burma should be able to compete in the business as well, and augment her existing natural resources.

Further despatches relating to Tibet have been published as a parliamentary paper [Cd. 2504, in continuation of Cd. 1920]. They consist chiefly of telegrams from Col. Younghusband and Brig-Gen. Maodonald to the Indian Government, the most important of which have already been issued by the India Office for publication in the Press. A series of letters from Col. Younghusband describe his interviews with various Tibetan officials.

The North-Western Railway Company were the first to adopt the recommendations of the Delhi Railway Conference. We are told that when the present examiner assumed office he abolished the system of promotion then in vogue to the great loss of the Indian clerks serving under him. According to the new system, introduced by him, the scales of increment were fixed at Rs. 5 and 10 respectively to the two grades. He also ordered that vacancies in the higher grade should be filled up by men from the lower grade according to seniority. So far so good. But when the turn for promotion came, he passed yet another order, cancelling the former one, and fixed the scales of increment at Rs. 2 and 5 respectively. Imagine the mortification of the poor clerks when they were told this after a year's hard toil. This is not all. He is introducing the Eurasian and European element in his office to the exclusion of the children of the soil. The posts of I. C. G. have practically been reserved for "Poor Whites." Yet we were told that the conference was held without the knowledge of the Government!

At Southwark, on May 5, William Lackenstein Joakim, a native of India, was charged on remand with obtaining 11. Is. from John Cox by false and fraudulent pretences. Mr. A. F. Rowe, who prosecuted for the Treasury, said that the prisoner would be further charged with obtaining 11. Is. from Mr. Watt, 18l. 15s. from Mr. Manchester, 12l. 10s. from Mr. Wigfield, and 2s. 6d. from another gentleman. On Jan. 30 the prisoner advertised for a private secretary at a salary of 800l. a year, and two clerks at 80l. a year each. Mr. Cox, a Finchaleys surveyor, was one of those who answered the advertisement, and the prisoner told him, in the course of an interview, that the millionaire in India for whom he was acting did not mind what he paid in salaries, and mentioned, 1,400l. or 1,500l. if necessary. Mr. Cox was thereupon appointed by the prisoner secretary at 1,500l. a year, and paid a guinea for expenses, and gave a commission note for five per cent. on the first year's salary. Curiously enough a Mr. Maodonald was also appointed secretary at 1,000l., Mr. Levy at 1,500l., Mr. Watts at 1,500l., and Mr. Manchester as assistant private secretary at 750l. Some of those appointed paid part of the commission in advance. Mr. Cox gave evidence, and the prisoner was again remanded being fixed in 200l.

ANGLO-INDIAN AND INDO-ENGLISH TOPICS.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

London, May 6.

BRITISH CONTEMPT FOR IMPORTANT INDIAN QUESTIONS.

In the House of Commons yesterday afternoon Colonel Nolan was announced to ask the Secretary of State for India "if he can now state to what extent competition has been abolished for entrance to civil State employment in India; if the abolition of competition applies only to Natives of India; and if he will state into whose hands will fall the patronage which may arise from the abolition of competition."

For all that is known to the contrary, the question was asked and answered yesterday. But so little do the English newspapers care for matters of the highest Indian importance, that not one London morning or evening journal has taken the trouble to publish the reply of the Secretary of State for India. That, patriotic Indians, loyal to the British raj, is a measure of what Englishmen, as a rule, care for deeply important questions affecting you and your country. The fact is there are not three publicists in the United Kingdom who know of the Curzonian ukase, and hardly one who cares. Yet, we are an Imperial people!

THE INDIA COUNCILS BILL.

In a recent Letter I described the measure with the above title now before the House of Commons as being of a very simple character. Simple as is the change which it proposes to make, that change is not to pass unchallenged. Mr. Herbert Roberts, M. P., has given notice that when the second reading is proposed, he will move that the Bill be read that day six months, which is the Parliamentary equivalent for moving its rejection. The second reading stood number 8 on the Agenda of yesterday's sitting and is omitted to-day. In view, however, of the Budget and other pressing proposals now before the House, it is not likely that the measure will be advanced a stage just yet. Unless, indeed, which we may happen, the preceding business may be adjourned a few minutes before midnight and the Secretary of State for India slip his measure through in thirty seconds. Mr. Roberts will be very much on the alert to prevent this happening. Because Mr. Bradlaugh in such matters was always on the alert and never allowed himself to be taken at a disadvantage, he became one of the greatest of Parliamentarians. He paid a high price for his pre-eminence, but he secured that pre-eminence.

AN INADEQUATE COMPARISON.

Mr. Herbert Spencer did not think much of the late Thomas Carlyle's judgment, logic, and good sense. In like manner Thomas Carlyle declared Herbert Spencer to be "the most unending ass" one would ever see. All the same, the honours of repartee are with Spencer. Carlyle had a most peculiar habit of comparing things which had nothing in common, and of building upon that comparison some clap-trap or other. He once compared India as a British possession with Shakespeare as a British asset, weighing one against the other as if they were at all comparable when, as a matter of fact, only a mind devoted to the most outrageous paradoxes could ever have coupled them in such a manner in one and the same sentence. However, the comparison sounds as if it really meant something remarkable. Consequently, the writer of a leading article in a London morning paper, when dealing with Shakespeare's literary eminence, delivered himself of this valued and interesting utterance:—

"Shakespeare is our supreme national asset. If we were asked the question whether we would be without India or Shakespeare, is there one true Englishman who would not say with Carlyle, 'India or no India, we cannot give up our Shakespeare.' India will go some day. Shakespeare is our enduring possession, indestructible by time or decay or change."

Let the Indian reader note the emphatic remark: "India will go some day." And, as the expression is noted, it should not be forgotten that every victory on sea and land which Japan secures over Russia brings—not the absolute severance of India from England, but the near approach of "practical independence." That is to say, this will happen if Indians are prompt to enforce the lessons which the re-birth of the Asiatic is daily teaching.

SIR HOWARD VINCENT'S REPENTANCE.

A few months ago, in this Letter, I drew attention to the immense ill-service Sir Howard Vincent had done to the trade of his country by an excess of zeal. He it was who procured the passing of a measure which gave the Germans the most magnificent free advertisement of which the world ever heard. "Made in Germany," stamped indelibly on every article manufactured in Germany, intended, however, for export to foreign countries and especially to British possessions, has turned millions of pounds sterling into Teutonic pockets, and has kept an equal number out of the bank accounts of British manufacturers. Sir Howard Vincent is now cognisant of the wrong he has done, and, in a spirit of true repentance he is trying to undo the wrong. It is too late for him to remedy the evil but an attempt in that direction is a sign of grace. A journal which has aided and abetted Sir Howard in all his mischievous trade vagaries, declares that the most interesting incident in the House of Commons, on Monday was the introduction of a "Made in Germany" abolition Bill. The originator of the measure, it adds, is Sir C. Howard Vincent; it proposes to amend the sixteenth Section of the Merchandise Marks Act. It provides that, instead of giving a specific advertisement to foreign manufacturers by such phrases as "Made in Germany," or "Made Abroad," shall be considered sufficient indication of foreign origin. While there is something pathetic in the arch wrong-doer thus trying to undo the wrong he has committed, there is also an element of foolishness in the effort. We may want to stop the use of the words, "Made in Germany," which have proved so effective in spreading German trade, and we may desire the words "Made Abroad" or "Imported" should be employed instead of the others, but there is little likelihood that the Germans, the Belgians, the French, would comply with our wishes. No, Sir Howard Vincent will have to learn the hard lesson that repentance, though useful in purging the indi-

vidual soul, is of little value in the realms of commerce when it comes into contact with a business-making device.

PARLIAMENTARY INDIAN PAPERS.

From the House of Commons Order Paper of 2nd of May, 1904, it would seem that several Parliamentary Papers relating to India were presented. The official record describes them thus:—

East India (Tibet).—Copy presented of Further Papers relating to Tibet (in continuation of C. 1920) (by Command); to lie upon the Table.

East India (Royal Indian Engineering College).—Copy presented, of Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee appointed in 1903 to enquire into the expediency of maintaining the Royal Engineering College, and other matters, together with an analysis and index of the evidence (by Command); to lie upon the Table.

East India (Royal Indian Engineering College).—Copy presented, of Reports and Correspondence relating to the expediency of maintaining the Royal Indian Engineering College, and other matters (by Command); to lie upon the Table.

The above are, at present, in manuscript only, and therefore, are only available to a copyist, and only, too, for a few hours before the "copy" is sent to the printers. "The Times" has made use of the opportunity to become acquainted with the contents of the correspondence concerning the Cooper's Hill College. There are too many subjects of first importance to be dealt with in this week's Letter to justify serious attention to what is, after all, a matter of secondary importance to Indians. Cooper's Hill College never dealt fairly by Indian engineers, and whoever may weep at its abolition, Indians need not drop a single tear. The unfairness to them was too conspicuous.

A TRIBUTE TO INDIAN WOMEN AND THEIR HOMES.

Some very interesting speeches were made at the annual meeting of the National Indian Association, held this week at the Imperial Institute. As education is one of the chief aims of the Association, it was only likely that its progress among the women of India should form one of the important topics referred to at the meeting. When I say that Mrs. Flora Annie Steel presided over the meeting, you may be sure that she made a very interesting speech. She spoke of the extreme beauty of the Hindu ideal division of life—the period of learning, the period of activity, and the period of reflection. She emphasised the need of forming a suitable system of education for women in India. It would not do, she said, to make the mistakes there that have been made, and are recognised to have been made, in England. English women, by their social system, are often left to fight their own battles, and the struggle for existence is very severe. Mrs. Steel said that in London alone there were 14,000 women earning a livelihood on wages that were miserably inadequate to supply them with bare necessities. If education and book learning made them forget that they were women first and B. A.'s afterwards, there was something wrong with the system. In dealing with the education of Indian women, she begged that consideration might be given to choosing what was best for them and not merely handing on a system which, in its working, left much to be desired in England. Mrs. Steel returned to the charge of administering a rebuke to those English ladies who spend a long time in India and make no effort to understand the language of the people among whom their lot is cast. Intercourse with Indian women is much helped by being able to speak with them in their own language.

But Mrs. Steel was not the only one to pay tribute to the Indian people. Dr. rollen, C. I.E., in his genial Irish way, spoke of the elevating influence of woman in the home. Is there, he asked, this elevating influence of woman in the homes of India? Answering his own question, he declared that he knew something of Indian homes; he knew men of high character, occupying distinguished positions, who owed much to the gracious ways of the households in which they had been brought up and the high moral tone that had been imparted to them. The influence of woman in the home is great in India as elsewhere. He mentioned the names of Mrs. Steel and Miss Manning as showing what Englishwomen may do for the women of India, and added that the woman who has had the greatest influence in all households in India, although unknown personally, is the late Queen Victoria. Referring to the purdah system, Dr. Pollen said that it would die hard, because young girls looked forward to following in the footsteps of their mothers, much as English girls anticipate the day when they will wear long dresses and do their hair up. It is by bringing knowledge within the reach of those behind the purdah that progress alone can be made. The men of India ought to feel the responsibility of providing for their wives and daughters the same educational advantages they have found available. A special interest was given to the meeting by an admirably delivered speech of a young Parsi lady, Miss C. Vakeel. There was much to be done, she urged, in spreading education among Indian women particularly in the country districts. The Parsis, as a people, had been the first to avail themselves of the advantages of education for women, and a number of Parsi women had distinguished themselves in various ways. Although proud of the accomplished deeds of her own people, Miss Vakeel said that friendly rivalry should be encouraged in educational matters, and success would be claimed irrespective of nationality. Miss Vakeel received a most sympathetic and enthusiastic welcome. The formal business of the meeting dealt with the report for the year, and the recognition of the work of the Association in England as well as in India. Special mention was made of the prizes offered for essays under the auspices of the Bombay Branch of the Association, and of the very successful result of the new departure. To Miss Manning the warmest thanks of the meeting were accorded for her unfailing and untiring devotion to the work of the Association.

THE BRITISH IRON AND STEEL INDUSTRIES.

"Are you Mr. Digby?" asked a gentleman, evidently a stranger to the gentleman he addressed.

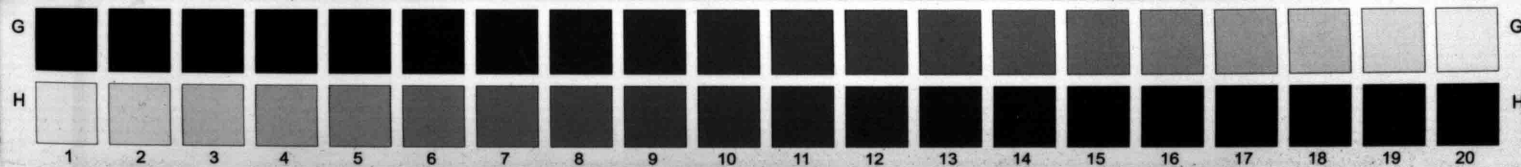
"Generally I am Mr. Digby," was the reply; "but to-night and in this Hall I am not Mr. Digby. Mr. Digby is the gentleman who has read the paper on the Iron and Steel Industries of the world, who has explained the diagrammatic curves shown by the aid of the lantern, who has met the challenges thrown down with regard to his conclusions in so able a manner, and who has won the praise of his critics. No; to-night and here I am not Mr. Digby. I am simply the Father of the reader of the Paper."

The conversation, of which the above was a part, was overheard the evening before last in the Lecture Hall of the Society of Arts, London, when Mr. W. Pollard Digby, F.R.S., F.S.A., A.M.I.C.E., A.M.I. Mech. E., Assistant Editor of the "Electro-Chemical and Metallurgical Magazine," eldest son of Mr. William Digby, C.I.E., occupied the rostrum and ably succeeded in interesting his audience in what was a severely technical subject. Mr. Digby, junr., read his Paper before the Society on the invitation of the Council. Before acceptance, it was submitted to Sir Robert Giffen, who praised it highly and commended its author's grasp of statistical knowledge. His long letter of commendation may be summarised in one sentence: "This is an excellent Paper, and capable young statisticians like Mr. W. Pollard Digby ought to be encouraged by the Society of Arts." On this expression of opinion, and young though the writer is, the Council lost no time in accepting his Paper in and fixing a date for its delivery. The date happened to be the evening of one of the annual meetings of the Iron and Steel Institute. Mr. Andrew Carnegie, President of the Institute, had hoped to be present to hear Mr. Pollard Digby's Paper, but his duties required his presence elsewhere. For myself, after hearing his Paper and his reply to his critics, I think he was well deserving the compliment paid to him in the fragment of conversation with which this paragraph begins. As to the Paper itself, and the proceedings of the meeting, I may be permitted to quote the "Standard" report, as a description of what took place, in order to avoid a suspicion of biased judgment on my part. It is as follows:—

At a meeting of the Society of Arts, held last night in the Society's Theatre, John-street, Adelphi, a Paper was read by Mr. William Pollard Digby, on "Statistics of the World's Iron and Steel Industries."—Mr. Alexander Siemens presided.—Having quoted the remarks of Mr. Chamberlain at Glasgow that "iron is threatened," and the observation by Mr. Hugh Bell in the Press, "He is not born, nor his father, nor his grandfather, who will see the British iron trade displaced from its proud position," Mr. Digby said the first of these utterances had been discounted to a very large extent by the latter. By reference to statistics, the author of the Paper proceeded to show that if we compared imports with exports, England, as compared with Germany and the United States of America, was holding a fairly satisfactory position. That was to say, when a balance was struck and imports were deducted from exports of any commodity, there was in the case of iron a very fair margin in our favour. In the earlier part of the Paper, this margin was treated as a currency one, and in the latter part as a food margin. The changes in the purchasing value of the sovereign were allowed for. The rest of the Paper was in the nature of a plea for complete and reliable statistics of internal trade, without which, Mr. Digby pointed out, no proper computation of the position of the country was possible. At a time when ill-digested statistics were thrown to and fro in argument, a plea for statistics might sound impertinent; yet some measure of the relation of imports not alone to exports, but to home consumption also, was surely necessary before we talked of bloated industries. Would none cease from a strife of the rival panaceas—Protection, altered business methods, temperance, retalia-tion, education, free labour, bounties, and so forth (good though some of these might be)—and unite to obtain the true figures of internal trade and its relation to exports and imports? For, only when these had been obtained were the component parts available with which alone it was possible to paint the only veracious picture of the nation's true condition (cheers).

After some discussion, in which Mr. Moreton Frewen, Mr. B. H. Brough, and Mr. Norden-felt took part, a cordial vote of thanks was given to Mr. Digby for his Paper, on the motion of the Chairman, who said that the Paper and the discussion had shown that the Fiscal Question was not such a simple one as it appeared.

The retention of about 2,000 troops temporarily in Somaliland is apparently a precautionary measure pending news regarding the intentions of the Mullah. Their presence will prevent a panic among the friendly tribes at any rate, though the behaviour of these during the campaign has not been at all satisfactory. Mr. Subbaraya Aiyar, of the Mysore Service, has been appointed Financial Adviser to the State on Rs. 900 per mensem. This arrangement has obviated the necessity to depute a Travancore officer to study the system of accounts keeping now in vogue in Mysore, with a view to alter the local system. The State Account Department is now presided over by the Vali Melathu Pillai, Melapore. Some remains of Geological and Archaeological interest were, it is understood, discovered during the course of sinking the wells of the new Ganges Railway Bridge at Paphaman, near Allahabad. An iron tripod, believed to be of Grecian origin, was found at a great depth below the river bed; also some bones, both fossilised and in their natural state, and of very large proportions. A writer in "London Opinion" relates that only one dog has ever had the audacity to enter Parliament during the proceedings. A hundred years ago, the Lords were thrown into consternation by a dog's entry. Lord North was addressing the House, and the dog promptly proceeded to bark furiously at him. Lord North, considerably upset, moved that the member, who was interrupting him, should be suspended. Thereupon, the dog was driven out, and suspended in such a manner that he never interrupted again. We are glad to see, says the "Indian Planter's Gazette," the present Maharajah of Dur-bhanga is not going to let his late lamented brother's herd of fine Jerseys die out. The "Clan MacLaren" brought out a couple of lovely bulls and four cows last month; these have all been landed safely at Durbhanga and will infuse fresh vigour into the old stock. More sensible than the Government authorities running Pusa, His Highness has not attempted to import big-boned animals, but small ones chosen from well-known milking ancestors.



High Court—May 23.

CRIMINAL BENCH.

(Before Justices P. A. and Handley.)

A MURDER CASE FROM TIPPERAH.

In this case a reference was made by the Sessions Judge of Tipperah for the confirmation of a death sentence passed by him on one Arman Khan. An appeal was also preferred to this Hon'ble Court against that conviction and sentence passed by the Sessions Judge.

The circumstances out of which the case arose were these:—

Ali Mian, and Taj Mahomed were brothers. Mahoram was the son of Man Gazi. Arman was the brother-in-law of Abdul, Taj Mahomed and Ali Mian were cousins of Abdul. Man Gazi's wife and Mahoram's wife used to address Ali Mian and Arman respectively as their spiritual fathers. Asraf Ali, the complainant married the sister of his neighbour Azimuddi. Man Gazi was Azimuddi's step brother. Azimuddi and his aunt Sonu Bibi occupied a home-stead about 165 yards east of Asraf Ali's house. It was alleged that Sonu Bibi had a four-anna share in it. In October last Azimuddi and Sonu Bibi gave a settlement to Asraf Ali to top 80 date trees in the home-stead. Man Gazi and Arman Khan were said to have offered Rs. 16 for the settlement but the complainant got it for Rs. 20. After Asraf Ali had been in possession of the trees for about two months, Man Gazi and Arman Khan began to give out that they had purchased Sonu Bibi's four-anna share. On Friday, the 26th December Man Gazi and Arman Khan and Ali, Taj, Mahoram and Abdul came at about 5 p.m. and Man Gazi and Arman Khan each climbed a date tree and proceeded to tap it. While they were doing so Asraf Ali and Fazole Ali arrived from their house and remonstrated. An altercation took place. Ali Mian and Taj Mahomed gave the order to beat Asraf and Fazole Ali. Fazole Ali began running towards the west in the direction of his house, but about 75 yards from Azimuddi's house he was overtaken and seized by Man Gazi. Arman Khan then came up and gave him a most severe cut in the neck with a sickle. Fazole Ali fell down and died almost instantly. Abdul and Mahoram, who were about 10 yards behind Man Gazi and Arman Khan attacked Asraf Ali with their "lathies" and inflicted certain wounds on his head. As soon as a cry was raised that Fazole Ali was dead all the six accused ran away to their respective houses. The Lakshman Police Station was nine miles from Bandoan, the place of occurrence. Asraf Ali, accompanied by another lodged the information before the Sub-Inspector at 5 p.m. That officer having despatched two constables in advance arrived at Bandoan at 8-30 a.m. and found Ali Mian, Man Gazi and Mahoram in the village, who were arrested. The other three accused were found to be absconding but they were eventually arrested. The Civil Hospital Assistant of Comilla held the "post mortem" examination. He deposed that the death was due to the incised wound on the neck. There was no evidence as to more than one blow being struck. On these facts the six persons were placed on their trial before Babu R. N. Banerjee, Deputy Magistrate of Tipperah, who framed a charge under Sec. 302 read with Sec. 149 I.P.C. against all the accused and a charge under Sec. 302 I.P.C. against Arman alone and committed the case to the Court of Sessions. The defence of Mahoram and Taj Mahomed was that at the time of the alleged murder they were in Chotoisi Bazar. Abdul said that he was in the village of Belgang. Arman Khan's defence was that he had gone to get money from creditor in the village of Bhiwkar; Ali Mian said that he was at home between 4 and 5 p.m. on the day of the murder and was receiving rents from tenants on behalf of Moh Chandra Gupta whose Tashildar he was in addition to these special statements the general defence put forward in the case was that Fazole Ali carried on an intrigue with Azimuddi's wife that on the 26th December he entered Azimuddi's hut and with a sickle; that on account of jealous enmity a totally false case had been concocted against the accused. At the Sessions Court the trial was held with the aid of assessors, who found all the accused guilty of the offence of rioting and grievous hurt on the ground that it was not Arman Khan's intention to kill Fazole Ali. Mr. B. K. McK, the Sessions Judge, however, held that it was impossible to believe from the nature of the wounds inflicted on Fazole Ali that he could have been any other intention than to cause death. Arman had in his opinion committed murder. Man Gazi had committed the offence of abetment of murder, Ali and Mahoram had committed the offence of voluntarily causing hurt. The Sessions Judge had grave doubts as to the presence of Ali Mian and Taj Mahomed among the attacking party, and acquitted them. In parting with the assessors he found Arman Khan guilty of the offence of murder under Sec. 302 I.P.C., and sentenced him to death. Man Gazi was found guilty of abetment of murder under Sec. 302 I.P.C. read with Sec. 149 I.P.C. he was sentenced to transportation for life. Abdul, Rahman and Mahoram were found guilty of an offence under Sec. 323 I.P.C. and were sentenced to six months' rigorous imprisonment each.

Mulvi Syed Shamsul Haq appeared for the accused. Mr. Douglas White appeared for the Crown.

Their Lordships after hearing both sides delivered a lengthy judgment and remarked that although they thought that the offence which Arman Khan had committed, was murder, yet it was not a case in which the extreme penalty of law was demanded. They therefore directed that sentence of death should be set aside and that Arman should be sentenced to transportation for life. As regards Man Gazi their Lordships could not find that he had abetted the offence of murder; what they found was that he was guilty of abetting of voluntarily causing simple hurt. Their Lordships therefore set aside the conviction under Sec. 302 I.P.C. and convicted him of an offence under Section 323 I.P.C. and sentenced him to six months' rigorous imprisonment like that of the other two accused.

Calcutta and Mofussil.

Police Stations.—The undermentioned police outposts, in the district of Birbhum, are declared to be police-stations for the local areas:—Khyrasole, Ilambar, Rajnagar and Muhammadbazar.

Public Works Department.—Babu Kanti Chunder Banerjee, Assistant Engineer, second grade, Arrah Division, is granted leave on medical certificate for 12 months. Mr. E. R. Gardner, Executive Engineer, first grade, Bengal, is appointed to officiate as a Superintending Engineer of the Western Circle.

A Soldier in Trouble.—On Tuesday, a soldier, named William Henry Southwell, Pay Sergeant at Munt Abu was placed before Mr. Weston for oars. The man belonged to the First York and Lancaster Regiment. He absconded with 21 G. C. Notes for Rs. 100 each. On the 13th instant, he came to Calcutta and put up at the Great Eastern Hotel. The Commissioner of Police, deputed Inspector Kizoni, who arrested him and found in his possession Rs. 126 in cash. The Commanding Officer, Mount Abu was wired for escort. The man was in the meantime remained in jail till the 31st instant.

Disastrous result from Lightning.—Says a Barisal paper:—On 29th Baisack last, a lightning struck the school premises of Babu Shish Chandra Dutt in village Ichli. The lightning appeared like a red-hot cannonball from outside when it found its way into the room. Immediately, some 12 boys dropped down from the shock and became senseless. Five of them instantly got up and, after sometime, six out of the remaining seven were restored to life after much tender care on the part of the school staff. But no effort could bring to life the other boy. Marks of burns were visible on the bodies of those saved.

Weather and Crops in Assam.—The following report on the state of the season and prospects of the crops for the week ending the 17th May 1904, is published in the "Assam Gazette":—Rain throughout the province. Ploughing and sowing of early and late rice; ploughing of tea and planting of sugarcane in progress. Tea still retarded by low temperature. Reaping of early transplanted rice in Shet finished, outturn poor owing to damaged floods. Sowing of cotton commenced. Cattle disease prevalent in five districts. Rices of common rice—Silchar 18, Sylhet, hubri, and Tezpur, 16, Gauhati and Sibanga 14, and Nowgong and Dibrugarh 13 seers per rupee.

Weaver and Crops in Bengal.—Rainfall during the week was general, but not evenly distributed. More rain is needed in Darbhanga and in parts of Burdwan, 24 Parganas and Jharkhand. Heavy rain has retarded the weaver of jute in parts of Mymensingh and reduced the prospects of crops unfavourable in Alpaiguri. Prospects otherwise good. Planting of sugarcane, sowing of autumn crops and preparation of lands for winter rice in progress. Cattle-disease reported from 12 districts. Fodder and water generally sufficient. The price of common rice has risen in districts, has fallen in 3, and it is stationary in the remainder.

Fatal Robbery at Canning Town.—On the night of the 22nd instant an atrocious cold blooded murder attended with robbery was perpetrated in the house of a Native Christian Canning Town under the following shocking circumstances. A rich Native Christian named Jheni Bibi possessing a large amount of ornaments and wealth slept on the night of occurrence in her room while her servants lay down outside her compartment. At midnight while she and her servants were fast asleep some ruffians broke open the doors of her bed room, entered into it, gagged her and strangled her to death. They then decamped with all the valuables they could lay their hands on. A vigorous Police enquiry is going on but no trace of the culprits has yet been found.

Vital Statistics.—The total number of deaths registered in Calcutta during the week ending 14th May was 692 against 621 and 738 in the two preceding weeks, and higher than the corresponding week of last year by 119. There were 95 deaths from cholera, against 100 and 103 in the two preceding weeks; the number is higher than the average of the past quinquennium by 32. There were 134 deaths from plague, against 171 and 270 in the two preceding weeks. There were 4 deaths from small-pox during the week, against 6 in the previous week. There were 11 deaths from tetanus, against 15 in the previous week. The mortality from fevers and bowel-complaints amounted to 104 and 56, respectively, against 94 and 36 in the preceding week. The general death-rate of the week was 36.3 per mille per annum, against 34.5, the mean of the last five years.

Subordinate Educational Service.—The following arrangements are sanctioned:—Babu Umesh Chandra Chatterjee, an Assistant in the Office of Director of Public Instruction is to be Head Clerk of the Hooghly College. Babu Hari Charn Chatterjee, Head Clerk, Office of Inspector of Schools, Burdwan Division, is appointed to be an Assistant in the Office of Director of Public Instruction, Pandit Rajkumar Tarkaratna, Assistant Master (Head Pandit), Bhagalpur Zilla School is allowed leave of absence for one year, Pandit Nanda Gopal Kavyatirtha Saraswati acting for him. The following arrangements are sanctioned consequent on the appointment of Babu Satis Chandra Mitra, B.A., Assistant Head Master of the Darjeeling High School to be an Assistant in the Office of Director of Public Instruction:—Babu Bepin Behari Chatterjee, B.A., Sub-Inspector of Schools, Darjeeling Terai, on leave to be Assistant Head Master of the Darjeeling High School, and Babu Gendra Nath Bose, B.A., an Assistant Master in the Darjeeling High School to be Sub-Inspector of schools Darjeeling Terai.

A Serious Affray in a Tea Garden.—A correspondent writes us to say that on Sunday last the 15th instant, the Rungli Ting garden at Madarkhat was the scene of a serious disturbance and had nearly cost the life of the Garden Kerani Babu Bistu Ram Dass. It is said that on the day in question while the Kerani was inside his house, two coolies, named Sonika Urang and Modira Urang, went to his house, for what purpose no body knew, and Sonika stealthily entered into the house. Babu Bistu Ram Dass was in another room at the time and hearing that some one had entered into his house, came

out from behind to the front door and saw the intruder. He questioned the coolies what they wanted and reprimanded them for entering into his house without permission or calling any body. The coolies said nothing and went away; but about half-an-hour after returned again in company of two others, named Mangro and Budhu coolies and, as before entered into the clerk's house without intimation. The latter was writing at the time when Budhu fell upon him from behind quite unawares and belaboured him with lathies, while Manika stabbed him in the neck first with a "chora" and then in the left arm. There were three wounds in the neck, each about an inch deep. A hue and cry was instantly raised, the wounded man was at once attended to by the garden Doctor who stitched the wounds. He was afterwards taken to the Dispensary at Dibrugar for treatment. The case is now being investigated by the Police. The correspondent says that there was no cause whatever for this ruthless attack upon the clerk by the coolies, and their wild out-break is said to have spread a panic among the villagers.—"Times of Assam."

THE DACCA SENSATION.

THE CASES AGAINST LAL MOHAN SHA.

(From our own Correspondent.)

Dacca, May 21.

The case under section 504 I.P.C. came on for hearing on Monday last. The prosecution was conducted by Babus Mohendra Nath Roy, Jogesh Chandra Sen and Satish Chandra Roy. The defence was represented by Babus Sarat Chandra Ghosh and Ananda Chandra Roy. Mrs. Roy was examined on that day. She was allowed to depose from within a closed palanquin. Babu Sarat Chandra Ghosh objected to it, on the ground that she was a Brahmo lady, and therefore not Pardanashin. The prosecution claimed that the lady was pardanashin. The Magistrate ruled that she would depose from within the palanquin, until a prima facie case was made that she was otherwise.

The following is the sum and substance of what she said:—At the repeated request of the ladies of the family of the accused, my husband sent me to his Zenana with strict injunctions that during my stay there no male member should enter the inner apartments. I was taken through the back door and received by the ladies kindly into an apartment in the Zenana, where I was provided with a chair to sit upon. The accused entered the room unperceived by me. I cannot say how busy he was when he entered. I suddenly met him when he came closer, having his eyes fixedly gazing at me with a gaze that excited in me shame, resentment and feelings of insult. He then took a position from which he could see me. He again entered the room and passed close to my chair almost touching me intentionally, although there was ample space for his moving without coming close to me. I felt angry and was subjected to fear. I felt insulted and ashamed. I could not go out because I came in dark and did not know the way. I angrily dragged my chair to the farthest distance. The accused on a pretext to open a wall-almirah, stood by it and brought out many phials and instead of keeping them on the side close to the almirah, he went on placing them on the side of his towards me. He then put the phials back in the almirah, and kept standing there on the pretext of giving certain instructions to whom I could not make out. One of the ladies who was there was his brother's wife. They all became dumb at his conduct. He loitered at the room for ten or fifteen minutes. They took me there in pursuance of a plot I believe. He took advantage of my helpless position in the inner apartment of his Zenana. No Hindu goes to the room where the younger brother's wife remains. But he came. I am a pardanashin lady of a respectable family. I do not appear before men generally. I observe a strict Parda as my family does. I do not go out in the open carriage nor do I expose myself to public views. My great-grandfather was the Dewan of Lord Clive.

In her cross-examination she said that she once sat in public at the Brahma Samaj, and was introduced to the special friends of her husband. At this Sarat Babu pointed out that she was not a Pardanashin lady. In reply Mohendra Babu said that regard must be paid to what she habitually is and does, and not what she once experimentally did; that if she wants the Parda the court could not deny it to her. The Magistrate here postponed the case till the following day. The Magistrate also remarked addressing Sarat Babu that he should remember that if a similar request came from the prosecution he would be compelled to comply with it, the other witnesses being the wives of the accused and of his two brothers. On the next day the prosecution pleader Mohendra Babu quoted two rulings of the Calcutta High Court, and requested the Magistrate to spare the lady the disgrace of coming into the witness box where the defence wanted to drag her. Sarat Babu again opposed it but Mr. Rankin over-ruled Sarat Babu. Mrs. Roy was cross-examined for full two days. Mr. Roy's cross-examination then followed. It assumed the appearance of a fight between Mr. Roy and Sarat Babu, the defence pleader, on the meanings of words at every step giving rise now and then to roars of laughter.

Another notable incident was the prayer of the prosecution to compel the accused to stand on the dock. The Magistrate remarked that it was not worthy of a man like Mohendra Babu to urge it. This was after the attempt of the defence to drag the lady in the witness-box.

The second case under section 500 I.P.C. was also taken up. Babus Raj Kumar Guha and Debendra Nath Sen were examined. The Magistrate further required the testimony of experts as to the meaning of certain words. Deputy Magistrates Babu Girish Chandra Dutta and Mohendra Nath Mazoomdar (Senior Deputy) have been cited witnesses.

Another severe storm, attended with rain, passed over Siala Monday evening. The Government of India has sanctioned the grant of Rs. 28,000 to complete the new Military Dairy at Rawalpindi.

The establishment of a Camp Ziarat during the hot weather for British troops at Quetta has been sanctioned as a temporary measure.

TELEGRAMS.

REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

THE RUSSO-JAPANESE WAR.

London, May 21.

Though officially discredited it is persistently stated at St. Petersburg that the cruiser "Bogatyr" has been totally wrecked in a fog outside Vladivostok. A similar report has reached Tokio.

Admiral Togo reports that the gun-boats, torpedo boat destroyers and torpedo boats, reconnoitred Port Arthur last night, despite a hot cross fire. The gunboats were slightly damaged, but there were no casualties.

Admiral Witger reports that three Japanese torpedo boats on 16th approached the scene the Japanese disaster, when the "Novik" went out and drove them off. This shows that the entrance to the harbour is practicable for large vessels.

General Stoessel reports that the Russian casualties at Kinchau, on the 16th, were 160. The enemy's advance on Kinchau has been arrested.

Reuter's correspondent at Tokio says that the Japanese at Takushan yesterday surrounded and routed a squadron of cavalry of miles north of Takushan killing and wounding many.

Reuter wires from Mukden that the Japanese main body estimated at 70,000 men is stationary, considerably south of the Russians covering Liaoyang. The Russian forces and defences are daily strengthening.

The Japanese disasters are received in Russia without exultation. The newspapers pay a tribute to the gallantry of the Japanese seamen.

It is reported at St. Petersburg that General Stoessel made a sortie, from Port Arthur, and drove back the Japanese killing and wounding one thousand. The Russians lost 150.

London, May 22.

Reuter's correspondent at St. Petersburg says that a telegram from General Sakharoff shows that the Japanese advance on Liaoyang has been resumed. He reports the movement of several detachments at different points, up to fifty kilometres north-west of Fenghuangcheng. Their horses and infantry are reported to be much exhausted.

Reuter's correspondent at Tokio says that, during Admiral Togo's reconnaissance of Port Arthur on Friday, a Russian shell struck the torpedo boat destroyer "Akatsuki," killing one officer and 24 men.

After repeated conferences of bankers and Ministers and Elder Statesmen, the former accepted the terms of the new popular loan at five per cent. of a hundred million yen to be issued at ninety-two.

London, May 23.

A Daily Chronicle despatch from Tokio says that over 900 were drowned in the Hatsuse and Yoshino.

The recently launched battleship Orel, which stranded immediately at St. Petersburg owing to her great draught, again stranded at Cronstadt on the 19th instant and her stern has since sunk deeply owing to the unexplained opening of her bilge pipe. The ship is now badly strained.

The rumour of a sortie from Port Arthur is not confirmed and originated in Stoessel's report of the Kinchau fight.

Kuropatkin reports that of the first Japanese army two divisions are now concentrated around Fenghuangcheng and one at Habalin, midway between Fenghuangcheng and Siyen. It is now stated that the fires at Cronstadt on the 10th instant were due to an attempt of peculating officials to conceal the shortage of stores, ammunition and clothes ordered to the Far East.

Admiral Skrydloff has arrived at Vladivostok. The Russians are re-occupying Niuchang with a fair force of Artillery and Mounted Infantry.

Reuter wires from Fusan on 21st that it is reported from Chinese sources that 2,000 Russians have re-occupied Siyen. The Russians are sending out in all directions reconnoitring parties, which avoid engagements unless in superior numbers.

A Times telegram from a steamer working the wireless telegraph says that General Kuraki is still at Fenghuangcheng, resting his forces preparatory to an advance on Liaoyang, and is awaiting the third Army Corps which advances north to co-operate.

The Russian concentrations against the Japanese advance on Liaoyang are at Lieushan. Oku is occupying Liautung, but if the Russians maintain the attitude which their field works indicate Port Arthur will not fall without heavy sacrifice.

The battleship "Orel" which was stranded at Cronstadt has been refloated. It is stated that the accident was due to carelessness in riveting the plates.

It is stated at the St. Petersburg that the Russians blew up the "Bogatyr," finding it impossible to save her.

The General Staff at St. Petersburg considers the re-occupation of Niuchang by the Russians to be due to a change in the situation produced by the loss of the Japanese ships, rendering it unsafe to despatch transports around Liautung.

Reuter's correspondent at Harbin says it is expected that the railway round Lake Baikal will be completed in August, the rocky nature of the ground causing difficulties, and seventeen tunnels being found necessary.

London, May 24.

There is increasing evidence that the Russians are deliberately strewing mines on the high seas. This is evoking strong protests in the British press.

The Tsur has returned to St. Petersburg. The Daily Telegraph says that Japanese agents have just purchased several steamers at Antwerp of 2,000 to 3,000 tons each.

The Morning Post wires from Tokio that a statement of bankers issued in connection with the internal loan estimates the expenditure between the opening of hostilities and next March at 41 million yen.

A Standard message from Tientsin says that Fenghuan, an expectant Taotai in Szechuan, has been appointed Assistant Resident in Tibet, with the rank of Expectant Resident in Tibet, with the rank of Expectant Deputy Lieutenant-General in the Manchu Army.

TELEGRAMS.

REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

GENERAL.

London, May 23.

The Den of Seaton, bound to Bombay with coal and Government stores, has sunk after collision in the Bristol Channel.

Italy has assented to the Khedivial debt decree.

Lord Curzon will be installed as Warden of Cinque Ports on the 2nd of July.

The Caledonia with the English mails of the 13th instant, left for Bombay at 9 a.m. to-day.

President Loubet in a speech at Arras said that the foreign policy of France was directed towards the maintenance of peace, strengthening alliances and friendly relations with Russia, Britain and Italy to-day, and others to-morrow.

INDIAN TELEGRAMS.

ALLEGED EXAMINATION FRAUDS.

Madras, May 23.

The of Presidency Magistrate Egmore passed orders in the case of alleged examination frauds committing the accused to the High Court. His worship held that the case was one of great public interest and involved serious questions in law; in fact which could be satisfactory and completely settled by a higher tribunal and hence his decision to commit. Besides in the event of conviction, his powers of punishment were too inadequate for the gravity of the offence.

THE MADRAS PROVINCIAL CONFERENCE.

Madras, May 23.

The Madras Provincial Conference held its annual session this year at Ranipet in North Arcot district to-day. The Dewan Bahadur Krishnasami Rao, C.I.E., late Dewan of Travancore, was voted to the presidential Chair. He delivered an address, in the course of which he thanked both the Supreme Government and the Local Government for the great active interest which they were evincing in recent years in industrial improvement in India and in that connection he deplored the sad and irreparable loss India had sustained by the death of Mr. J. N. Tata. He hoped the Government of India would soon take steps to work the Co-operative Credit Societies Act in various Provinces for the benefit of the people. While on the subject of technical education he observed that it was impossible to depend solely on the Government in that matter; but people should do what was done by big trading guilds in England and other countries to establish technical schools. He remarked that the Free Trade policy of the Government of India had the effect of restricting development of indigenous industries and arts. But he thought the unlimited resources of India in raw materials coupled with cheapness of labour ought to minimise these disadvantages and lead to more profitable utilisation of natural products of the country. He referred to the progress made in the planting and fibre industry in Travancore. The rest of the speech was devoted to the discussion purely of provincial matters.

TIBET MISSION.

ATTACK ON VILLAGE.

Gyantse, May 22.

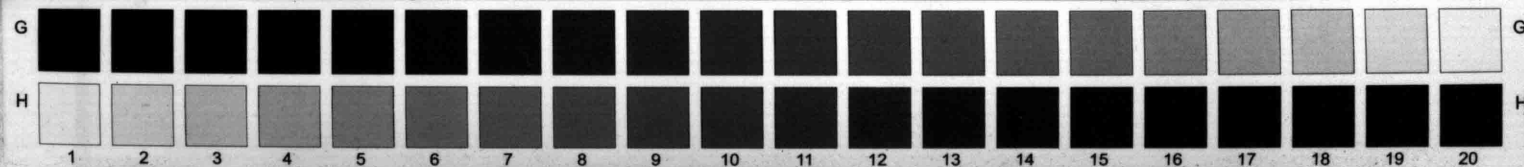
This morning Colonel Brander led out four companies of Pioneers and two guns to clear the villages in the rear occupied by the enemy. The operations were confined to the right bank of the river. The enemy deserted the first two villages but in the third the most obstinate resistance was made, the troops meanwhile being exposed to a flanking fire from the fourth village which was occupied by many riflemen. The third village was finally very gallantly taken by assault, a breach being made in a walled house with gunshots. Lieutenant Hodgson of the 32nd Pioneers, who led the way was rushed at by a swordsmen who inflicted a wound on his arm. Twenty Tibetans were killed, while our casualties were two Sikhs killed and one officer and three men wounded. The Sikhs who were killed displayed the greatest courage. One actually scaling the wall was shot through the head at a few paces. Preparations were being made to attack the fourth village, when a great mass of Tibetans were seen, through the binoculars, under the walls of the Fort apparently preparing to rush the camp, back to which the troops had to hasten. All through the operations a persistent fire was kept up on the camp and on the troops going out and coming in, from the Fort; but only two animals were hit.

In spite of the heavy losses already inflicted on them the Tibetans are showing great courage and intelligence, their audacity being no less a revelation than their possession of modern arms. Of the men hit to-day three were struck by rifle bullets of high velocity, and bullets were whizzing all over the field during the fight.

Simla, May 24.

The Intelligence Officer with the Tibet Mission is to be the Deputy Assistant Quarter-Master General for Intelligence and a Staff Officer, and the officer commanding the lines of communication will be a Brigade Major.

On the 19th instant the dak patrol of the 8th Mounted Infantry, when nearing Gyantse Post, were ambuscaded and surrounded but were extricated by assistance from the post after losing one killed and two wounded, also seven ponies killed and wounded. The enemy's loss was not known, but it is considerable. Colonel Brander was moving on the 20th May against the village concerned. Colonel Brander moved out on the 21st instant against some villages 14 miles from Gyantse which threatened his communications. A stubborn resistance was made by one village, and the entry could not be effected until the wall had been blown in, which was done by Lieutenant Gordon, 32nd Pioneers. The village was captured. Our losses were one Havildar and one Sepoy of the 32nd Pioneers killed, and Lieutenant Hodgson and three Sepoys wounded. Lieutenant Hodgson was wounded when leading an assault on a building.



Calcutta Gazette.—May 25.

APPOINTMENTS AND TRANSFERS.

Babu Umprasaana Guha, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, on leave, is posted to Monghyr.

Baba Kali Mohan Sen, substantive pro tempore Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, is posted to the head-quarters station of the Rangpur district, on being relieved of his Settlement duties in the Bhagalpur district.

Babu Arun Kumar Bose, substantive pro tempore Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Howrah, is transferred to the head-quarters station of the Nadia district.

Babu Braja Durlab Hazra, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, on leave, is posted to the head-quarters station of the Sonthal Parganas district.

Mr. G. B. Mumford, Assistant Magistrate and Collector, Muzaffarpur, is transferred to the head-quarters station of the Patna district. Mr. Mumford is placed in charge of the Patna City subdivision in addition to his duties as Assistant Magistrate of the Patna district.

Mr. A. W. Donith, Officiating Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Midnapore, is transferred to the head-quarters station of the 24-Parganas district.

Mr. Jnanendra Nath Roy, Officiating Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Mymensingh, is transferred to the head-quarters station of the Midnapore district.

Mr. V. B. Cobden Ramsay, Assistant Magistrate and Collector, Hajipur, Muzaffarpur, is transferred to the head-quarters station of the Mymensingh district.

Mr. T. S. Macpherson, Assistant Magistrate and Collector, Dinapore, Patna, is appointed to have charge of the Hajipur subdivision of the Muzaffarpur district.

Babu Gobind Chandra Das Gupta, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, on leave, is posted temporarily to the head-quarters station of the Hooghly district.

Mr. H. U. Baker, Assistant Superintendent of Police, 24-Parganas, is transferred to Patna, and appointed to hold charge of the Patna City Police, on being relieved of his temporary appointment as Assistant Inspector-General, Government Railway Police, Sealdah.

Mr. C. W. T. Feilmann, Assistant Superintendent of Police, is posted to 24-Parganas on being relieved of the charge of the Howrah District Police.

The Probationary Assistant Superintendents of Police, named below, are transferred temporarily from Bhagalpur to the district mentioned against their names:—

Mr. J. V. B. R. Bromage, Shahabad.

Mr. J. P. Feeny, Patna.

Mr. N. B. Haynes, Munbhum.

Mr. P. L. Faulkner, Hazaribagh.

Mr. J. F. Dickinson, Murshidabad.

Mr. C. R. F. Bion, Burdwan.

Mr. C. H. M. Horne, Darjeeling.

Mr. O. H. M. Horne, Probationary Assistant Superintendent of Police, Darjeeling, is transferred to Bhagalpur.

PROMOTIONS.

The following appointments, confirmations and promotions are sanctioned in the Indian Civil Service, but the officers concerned will continue to act in the higher appointments or grades, if any, until further orders:—

Appointed temporarily to be Commissioner of a Division.

Mr. D. J. Mopherson, C.I.E., vice the Hon'ble Mr. W. O. Macpherson, C.S.I. confirmed as Commissioner of a Division.

Mr. F. W. Duke, vice the Hon'ble Mr. W. O. Macpherson, C.S.I., confirmed as Secretary to the Government of Bengal in the General and Revenue Departments.

Mr. J. H. Bernard, vice the Hon'ble Mr. A. Earle, confirmed as Secretary to the Government of Bengal in the General and Revenue Departments.

Appointed temporarily to be Magistrate and Collectors of the first grade.

Mr. C. G. H. Allen, vice Mr. D. J. Macpherson, C.I.E., but to be seconded while on deputation.

Promoted substantively pro tempore to the first grade of Magistrates and Collectors.

Mr. E. Geake, vice Mr. C. G. H. Allen, on deputation.

Confirmed in the second grade of Magistrates and Collectors.

Mr. F. N. Fischer, vice Mr. F. W. Duke.

Mr. A. G. Hallifax, vice Mr. J. H. Bernard.

Appointed temporarily to be Magistrates and Collectors of the second grade.

Mr. J. G. Cumming, vice Mr. C. G. H. Allen.

Promoted substantively pro tempore to the second grade of Magistrates and Collectors.

Mr. C. A. Radice, vice Mr. A. G. Hallifax.

Confirmed in the third grade of Magistrates and Collectors.

Mr. H. D. deM Carey, vice Mr. F. N. Fischer.

Mr. Muhammad Yusuf, vice Mr. A. G. Hallifax.

Appointed temporarily to be Magistrates and Collectors of the third grade.

Mr. Satish Chandra Mukerjee, vice Mr. J. G. Cumming.

Promoted substantively pro tempore to the third grade of Magistrates and Collectors.

Mr. W. B. Thomson, vice Mr. C. A. Radice.

Confirmed in the first grade of Joint-Magistrates and Deputy Collectors.

Mr. J. C. Twidell, vice Mr. H. D. deM Carey.

Mr. E. Lister, vice Mr. J. C. Twidell.

Mr. A. Garret, vice Mr. M. Smithier.

Appointed substantively pro tempore to the second grade of Joint-Magistrates and Deputy Collectors.

Mr. W. B. Heycock, vice Mr. T. Emerson.

Mr. A. H. Clayton, vice Mr. D. H. Kingsford.

Mr. A. N. Moberly, vice Mr. H. Coupland.

Mr. E. L. Hammond, vice Mr. F. P. Dixon, confirmed.

Mr. R. G. Kilby, vice Mr. J. R. Blackwood.

Mr. F. J. Jeffries, vice Mr. E. L. Hammond, appointed as Superintendent of the Cooch Behar State.

JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT.

Babu Jogesh Chunder Guha, Munsif of Brahmanbaria, in the district of Tippera, is appointed to be a Munsif in the same district, to be ordinarily stationed at Chandpur.

Babu Asutosh Pal, Munsif of Chandpur, in the district of Tippera, is appointed to be a Munsif in the same district, to be ordinarily stationed at Brahmanbaria, but to continue in his present appointment at Chandpur till relieved.

Babu Prafulla Chandra Dutt, B.L., is appointed to act as a Munsif in the district of Tippera, to be ordinarily stationed at Brahmanbaria, during the absence, on deputation, of Babu Asutosh Pal.

Babu Pankaja Kumar Chattopadhyaya, Munsif of Narail, in the district of Jessore, is appointed to be a Munsif in the district of the 24-Parganas, to be ordinarily stationed at Alipur.

Babu Rames Chandra Basu, M.A., B.L., is appointed to act as a Munsif in the district of Jessore, to be ordinarily stationed at Narail.

Babu Netai Charan Ghose, Munsif of Sattania, in the district of Chittagong, on leave, is appointed to be a Munsif in the district of Jessore, to be ordinarily stationed at Narail.

Babu Girija Bhushan Sen, B.L., is appointed to act as a Munsif in the district of Rangpur, to be ordinarily stationed at Jalpaiguri, during the absence, on leave, of Babu Satish Chandra Biswas.

Babu Upendra Nath Datta, Munsif of Sattania, in the district of Jessore, on leave, is appointed to be a Munsif in the district of Cuttack, to be ordinarily stationed at Kendrapara.

Babu Pares Nath Chatterjee, Munsif of Kendrapara, in the district of Cuttack, is appointed to be a Munsif in the district of Jessore, to be ordinarily stationed at Sackhira.

Babu Brajendra Kumar Biswas, B.L., is appointed to act as a Munsif, in the district of Hooghly, to be ordinarily stationed at Serampore, during the absence, on leave, of Babu Onil Chandra Dutt.

Babu Jogendra Chandra Maulik, Subordinate Judge, Khulna, is allowed leave for one month, under article 271 of the Civil Service Regulations.

Babu Kunja Behari Biswas, Munsif of Bangaon, in the district of Jessore, is allowed leave for fifteen days, under article 271 of the Civil Service Regulations.

Babu Nagendra Nath Mitra, Munsif of Midnapore, is allowed leave for one month, viz., six days under article 274 of the Civil Service Regulations, and the remaining period under article 271 of the same Regulations.

Babu Haripada Bondopadhyaya, Munsif, under orders of transfer to Basirhat, in the district of the 24-Parganas, is allowed leave for one month, under article 271 of the Civil Service Regulations.

SUBORDINATE CIVIL SERVICE.

Babu Madhab Chandra Misra, substantive "pro tempore" Sub-Deputy Collector, Orissa Division, is posted to the head-quarters station of the district of Angul.

Babu Bhikari Charan Das, substantive "pro tempore" Sub-Deputy Collector, Angul, is transferred to the Khurda subdivision of the Puri district.

Babu Ananta Mohon Ray, substantive "pro tempore" Sub-Deputy Collector, is posted to the Bhagalpur Division.

Babu Baij Nath Sahai (No. 1), Sub-Deputy Collector, is posted to the Bhagalpur Division.

The substantive "pro tempore" Sub-Deputy Collectors named below are posted to the Rajshahi Division, on being relieved of their Settlement duties in the Bhagalpur district:—

Babu Kshetzo Mohan Mukerji. Babu Karali Charan Ganguli.

Maulvi Syud Izzat Hossain, Sub-Deputy Collector, is posted to the Patna Division, on being relieved of his Settlement duties in the Bhagalpur district.

Babu Churn Chandra Chaudhuri, Sub-Deputy Collector, Patna Division, is posted to the Buxar sub-division of the Shahabad district.

MEDICAL DEPARTMENT.

The service of Assistant Surgeon Daudar Rahman Khan, M.B., attached to the Rassapaga Dispensary, in the district of 24-Parganas, are placed at the disposal of the Government of India in the Foreign Department.

JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT.

The following promotions, confirmations, and appointments are sanctioned in the Judicial Branch of the Provincial Civil Service:—

Promoted to the first grade of Subordinate Judges.

Babu Bhagavati Charan Mitra, vice Babu Prasanna Kumar Ghose, retired.

Promoted to the second grade of Subordinate Judges.

Babu Bhuvan Mohan Ghose, vice Babu Bhagavati Charan Mitra, promoted to the first grade.

Babu Anund Nath Majumdar, vice Babu Jadupati Bannerji, retired.

Confirmed in the third grade of Subordinate Judges.

Babu Aghor Chandra Hazra, vice Babu Kali Prasanna Basu Rai Chowdhury, deceased.

Babu Purna Chandra De, vice Babu Bhuvan Mohan Ghose, promoted to the second grade.

Babu Purna Chandra Ghosh, vice Babu Prasanna Kumar Basu, deceased.

Babu Pran Krishna Biswas, vice Babu Anund Nath Majumdar, promoted to the second grade.

Appointed substantively pro tempore to the third grade of Subordinate Judges.

Babu Pran Krishna Biswas, vice Babu Aghor Chandra Hazra, confirmed in the third grade.

Babu Nalini Nath Mitra.

Babu Bepin Behari Chatterjee.

Babu Lohit Kumar Bose.

Confirmed in the first grade of Munsifs.

Babu Latu Behari Bose, vice Babu Aghor Chandra Hazra, confirmed in the third grade of Subordinate Judges.

Babu Bepin Behari De, vice Babu Okhoy Coomar Mitra, retired.

Babu Phani Bhushan Mookerjee, vice Babu Purna Chandra De, confirmed in the third grade of Subordinate Judges.

Babu Sarat Chandra Sen, vice Babu Pran Krishna Biswas, confirmed in the third grade of Subordinate Judges.

Promoted substantively pro tempore to the first grade of Munsifs.

Babu Nirmal Chandra Sinha, vice Babu Latu Behari Bose, confirmed.

Babu Sarat Chandra Sen, vice Babu Bepin Behari De, confirmed.

Babu Asutosh Banerji.

Babu Prasanna Kumar Gupta.

Babu Devendra Bijoy Bose.

Confirmed in the second grade of Munsifs.

Babu Bhupal Chandra Ganguly, vice Babu Latu Behari Bose, confirmed in the first grade.

Babu Amulya Chandra Ghose, vice Babu Bepin Behari De, confirmed in the first grade.

Babu Jogesh Chandra Mukerjee, vice Babu Phani Bhushan Mookerjee, confirmed in the first grade.

Babu Shyama Churn Ukil, vice Babu Nirmal Chandra Sinha, confirmed in the first grade.

Babu Kader Nath Chatterjee, vice Babu Sarat Chandra Sen, confirmed in the first grade.

Promoted substantively pro tempore to the second grade of Munsifs.

Babu Shyama Churn Ukil, vice Babu Bhupal Chandra Ganguly, confirmed.

Babu Keder Nath Chatterjee, vice Babu Amulya Chandra Ghose, confirmed.

Mr. Mahmud Hasan.

Babu Bepin Behari Das Gupta.

Babu Apama Prosad Mukerji.

Confirmed in the third grade of Munsifs.

Babu Haripada Mazumdar, vice Babu Bhupal Chandra Ganguly, confirmed in the second grade.

Babu Khetter Nath Banerji, vice Babu Jogesh Chandra Mukerjee, confirmed in the second grade.

Babu Baman Das Mukerjee, vice Babu Shyama Churn Ukil, confirmed in the second grade.

Babu Kumud Kanta Bose, vice Babu Keder Nath Chatterjee, confirmed in the second grade.

Promoted substantively pro tempore to the third grade of Munsifs.

Babu Baman Das Mukerjee, vice Babu Haripada Mazumdar, confirmed.

Babu Kumud Kanta Bose, vice Babu Ananta Nath Mitter, confirmed.

Babu Raj Kishor.

Babu Satindra Nath Guha.

Babu Netai Charan Ghosh.

Confirmed in the fourth grade of Munsifs.

Babu Ganendra Mohan Das, vice Babu Haripada Mazumdar, confirmed in the third grade.

Babu Basanta Kumar Pal, vice Babu Ananta Nath Mitter, confirmed in the third grade.

Maulvi Wali Mahomed, vice Babu Khetter Nath Banerji, confirmed in the third grade.

Babu Kumud Nath Roy, vice Babu Baman Das Mukerjee, confirmed in the third grade.

Babu Jamini Kanta Mukhopadhyaya, vice Babu Kumud Kanta Bose, confirmed in the third grade.

Appointed substantively pro tempore to the fourth grade of Munsifs.

Mr. S. M. Khalilur Rahman, Officiating Additional Munsif of Madhubani, Tirhut.

Mr. Syed Nasiruddin Ahmed, Officiating Munsif of Arrah, Shahabad.

Babu Narayan Chandra Ghose, Officiating Munsif of Goalundo, Faridpur.

Babu Satish Chandra Basu, Officiating Munsif of Patuakhali, Backergunge.

A DELHI SENSATION.

What but for the efforts of the local police would have been a serious riot took place, on the 12th instant, during the celebration of a widow re-marriage. Under the auspices of the Widow Marriage Association, a widow marriage took place at Delhi, on the 12th instant, at about 6-15 p.m., and while the marriage procession was passing through the Dharampura some of the members chanted songs in praise of widow re-marriage. This so upset the feelings of the Jains and the Brahmans, who regard widow re-marriage as strictly against their religion, that a serious affray took place, several persons being injured; but fortunately the police appeared on the spot and arrested fourteen of the culprits.

Bail was accepted in each case by Major C. Parsons, the Deputy Commissioner, before whom the trial came off on Friday. After going through the evidence for the prosecution and defence, the Magistrate expressed his sympathy with the cause of widow re-marriage, but regretted very much the injudicious chanting of songs, etc., which, he said, could not fail to be a provocation to the orthodox Hindus and prove a cause of trouble. The charge was altered from section 262 I.P.C. to 160 I.P.C., and he acquitted three of the accused against whom there was not sufficient evidence. The case as regards the rest of the accused was then adjourned to Tuesday, the 24th instant, to obtain the evidence of Lala Raghubardayal, a professor in St. Stephen's College, Delhi, and Lala Radhika Narain, an Executive Engineer in the Punjab. The case has created a sensation in the town and there were many interested spectators present.

Measures are being taken, we understand, to strengthen the transport in Tibet as the march upon Lhasa will certainly be an arduous one.

During the last and current year the Ameer has been drawing a large portion of his subsidy, which had accumulated with the Government of India since the death of Ameer Abdur Rahman, and only lately several of the Punjab Treasuries have paid large amounts to Mahomed Zafar Khan, one of the Ameer's officials, who is on a visit to India.

A substantial drop of four thousand took place in the number of plague deaths in the Punjab last week, but United Provinces still return thirty thousand as its quota to the mortality list of the past seven days. In the Shahpur district, where several of the European officials have been attacked, the returns are 3,684 deaths and Gurdaspur District 4,717 in the same period, while the whole of the rest of India had less than five thousand plague deaths.

KRISHNAGHUR NOTES.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

Krishnagur, May 19.

WARRANT AGAINST A EUROPEAN LADY.

Mr. Radice, the District Magistrate, has lately issued a warrant against Mrs. Brown under the following circumstances. The lady, sometime ago, went to Rajshahi and put up at the District Board Dak-bungalow. She stayed there for some time and returned here without paying the dues to the District Board. Mr. Garrett, the District Magistrate of Rajshahi brought a civil suit against her and got a decree. Mr. Garrett, as plaintiff, wanted to execute the decree and, in execution, he wanted to attach some of her properties. When the peons went to attach them, she offered resistance and obstruction with the result that the redoubtable District Magistrate, he hero of the late Puri case, had to take recourse to the criminal court. She was prosecuted and summoned to appear before him to answer to the charge of offering resistance to a public servant in the lawful discharge of his public duty, etc. As the case was put up before Mr. Garrett, who was himself the plaintiff in the civil suit in the execution of which these troubles arose, the case was transferred from his to that of the District Magistrate of Ndia. She was released, on bail and ordered to appear before Mr. Radice, the Civil Surgeon standing surety for her. On the appointed day, she did not appear and hence the warrant. A notice has also been served upon the Civil Surgeon, her surety, to show cause why his bail-bond should not be forfeited. We anxiously wait to see the result of the case.

BENCH AND BAR.

The northern wall of the Judge's Court room was adorned with the portrait of Mr. G. K. Deb, the popular and able District and Sessions Judge. On the 29th of April, the following letter was addressed by the present District Judge to the Secretary of the Bar Library:—

Sir,—I have the honour to request you to remove the portrait of Mr. G. K. Deb, the late District Judge of Nadia, from the Judge's court-room. I think the Bar Library is more suitable place for the portrait. The courts of justice in this country are not daily so adorned.

I have, &c.

(Sd.) F. MacBlair.

We cannot say whether the "darkies" of his visage or "native" smell of his trait attracted the eyes or the ears of our present Judge who was good enough to bear the sight of the portrait of a "live" Judge for more than a fortnight, but the Secretary of the Bar Library was compelled to remove the portrait. In consultation with the President of the Bar Library, the Secretary sent a representative to the District Judge to the effect that the portrait was hung there with the permission of his predecessor in office, Mr. J. D. Call, who granted the permission after hearing in the Hon'ble Justice Pratt, who had been late on inspection. Mr. Justice Pratt remarked on that occasion that portraits of the kind, and their places in the court room of many districts in Bengal as well as in the High Court of Calcutta. It was, therefore, the desire of the Bar that it would be replaced there. The Secretary also requested that the Judge respectfully to send in their representation to the High Court if he thought other than Smalley when he last heard from him was wise. The representation was sent on then Bombay. As further grounds, the Administration letter to the Secretary on the 17th May, application an affidavit by Edmund Henry Bertram Craster, of Abcoabad, in the Punjab, captain in the Royal Artillery, who amongst other facts, stated (1) that the deceased, as he described as formerly a member of Bengal Civil Service but who retired in 1891 and lived at Beadwell Hall, near Chattrill, in Northumberland, England, was his father, who died at Beadwell Hall, on the 31st August 1893; (2) giving duly executed and made a will dated 4th January 1893 by which he appointed, as his father's brothers George Ayt Craster and Thomas Henry Craster, and mother's brother-in-law, Robert Conway, executors and trustees; (3) which will the testament was informed and believed was proven in England on the 27th October 1898 by his executors, the other executor having renounced (4) that his father died leaving him surviving three sons only and two daughters, and no issue, namely, John Evelyn Edmund Craster, Herbert Henry Edmund Craster, and himself, the deponent, and Katherine Margaret Allhusen and Barbara Marion Craster, all of full age; (5) that it was wholly untrue that his father left any son or next of kin of the name of Henry Craster Craster, or that father died intestate. Owing to the allegations contained in the power of attorney, and the consequent grant of administration to Mr. Cowie, a fraud was committed resulting in the misappropriation of assets belong to the estate of the deceased in connection with which a charge has been laid against Smalley, the hearing of which is now being proceeded with in the Court of the Presidency Magistrate of Calcutta. On the 20th May 1904 Smalley put in a statement in his own handwriting and signed by him, before Mr. D. W. Pratt, the Presidency Magistrate in the course of the trial, in which he admits his guilt, in using the power of attorney under a false name, viz., that of Henry Craster Craster, and in paying the sum of Rs. 45,000 at Bombay under the same name, but states that he did so the instigation of and in concert with Ed. Hardwicke Cowie. The Administrator General of Bengal preferred a charge of criminal breach of trust, with regard to a portion of the assets of the estate in question, and a warrant of arrest has been issued against Ed. Hardwicke Cowie, but he has not yet been arrested.

His lordship after hearing Mr. Sinha gave sanction under section 195 of the Criminal Procedure Code to prosecute Smalley, and the late administrator of the estate of Edmund Craster Craster.

The creation is now of a new general police district under the jurisdiction of the Lieutenant-Governor the United Provinces, to include the following districts:—(1) Bengal and North-Western; (2) Odh and Rohilkhand; (3) Bally-Rampur-Moradabad; (4) Rohilkhand-Kumaon; (5) East Indian; (6) India-Nidland; (7) Cawnpore-Achnera; (8) Delhi-Ballia and Kalka; and (9) Kalka-Simla, so as they are situated within the United Provinces, the Punjab, the Central Provinces, and adjacent Native States. The enrolment of police force for this district is also ordered.

My dear Sir,—I am in receipt of your letter of the 4th instant. I am not aware what passed between the Hon'ble Mr. Pratt and my predecessor Mr. Cargill, relative to the hanging of Mr. Deb's portrait in the Court House. As far as I can gather, the Hon'ble Mr. Pratt left the decision to Mr. Cargill, who did not object to the hanging of the portrait in the Court.

In spite of this I adhere to my opinion that the proper course for the members of the Bar who wish to honour Mr. Deb would be to hang his portrait in that building which is under their control, viz., the Bar Library. The cases you refer to, of portraits having been hung in courts in Bengal, were unknown to me before this.

The matter does not appear to me to be one for reference to the Judges of the High Court. The control of public buildings is vested on the executive Government.

I regret not to be able to comply with your wishes in this matter.

I am,

Yours truly,

(Sd.) F. MacBlair,

District Judge.

A SCENE IN COURT.

I give you another incident which will speak for itself. Yesterday a pleader of the local bar was arguing an appeal on behalf of the appellant before the District Judge. On seeing the 3rd ground the District Judge asked the pleader why he had taken it as a ground of appeal. The pleader said that he took that ground because he thought it fit and reasonable and he was ready to support it. The District Judge then asked the pleader to point out to him the portion of the Munsif's judgment with reference to which such ground might be urged. The pleader then read a certain portion from the judgment of the Munsif, which, in his opinion, supported the ground he urged.

District Judge.—Are you serious?

Pleader.—Yes, sir, I can substantiate my ground.

District Judge.—I have not heard any such interpretation outside Lunatic Asylum.

Pleader.—I strongly protest against any such remark from the bench. We are not used to such treatment from the Court.

MAGNETIC GIRL.

WEIRD POWERS CREDITED TO A CHILD OF TWELVE.

An account of a phenomenon observed in a girl of twelve residing at Vladikavkas in the Caucasus has been communicated to the "Novoe Vremya," writes a St. Petersburg correspondent.

The girl is the daughter of a workman named Luba. It is stated that every object which she approaches begins to move. If she goes near a dresser with plates upon it they begin to dance, washing hung on a line flies off it, a bottle standing on a table is raised in the air and, falling down, is broken in pieces, and stones lying on the ground leap in the air and fall again.

The girl is perfectly healthy, and laughs at the occurrences called forth on her appearance. No one can explain them, although a number of doctors and professors of physical science have been consulted.

The child's parents are very poor, and wish to send her out to domestic service, but she always loses her places owing to the assertion of ignorant people that she is possessed of a devil, and that she should be sent to Father John of Oronstadt, in St. Petersburg, to have the demon exorcised.

At present the means are being collected to send the child to St. Petersburg for her marvellous magnetic powers to be examined by medical authorities.

SENTENCED TO DEATH.

At the High Court Criminal Bench, on Tuesday, Justices Pratt and Handley delivered the following judgment in the case of Emperor vs. Panchu Dass, who had been convicted under section 302 I.P.C. by the Sessions Judge of the 24-Pargannahs in agreement with the unanimous verdict of the jury, and sentenced to be hanged:—

The appellant Panchu Das has been convicted by the Additional Sessions Judge of the 24-Pargannahs of murder and sentenced to death under section 302 I.P.C., under section 374 Cr. P. C. the sentence is subject to confirmation by this Court. The jury returned a unanimous verdict of guilty of murder but recommended him to mercy on the ground of his youth, he being 22 to 24 years of age. Panchu Dass has appealed to this Court against the conviction and sentence and his appeal has been argued at considerable length by a learned pleader. It appears that the appellant having lost his parents was living with his cousin Kanai in his family; Purna, the mother of Kanai, and Beraji, the wife of Kanai, lived in the same household. Purna seems to have scolded the appellant for laziness on several occasions: On the 20th February last there was an altercation between them and Purna said "if you don't work how can we get you married; you had better leave our family." Panchu Das replied "I have to leave this house I shall go after exterminating you." Panchu Das went out to tap trees in the afternoon; he came back with a dao and began to sharpen it with sand. Purna again scolded him and Panchu became very angry. Seeing this Purna moved away to her mother Billa who was in the house; Panchu went up to Purna and struck her in the back with the dao. She fell unconscious and was removed to hospital. Three incised wounds were found on her back. Her dying deposition was recorded, but she has recovered and given evidence at the trial. Panchu then ran out of the house with the dao and met Beraji, wife of Kanai, carrying a "kalsi" of water. He struck her with the dao on the back of the neck; he struck her a second blow and she fell down; after she fell, Panchu went on striking her with the dao; Beraji died on the spot. Bhondal, a Mussulman saw Panchu striking Beraji and called out "Panchu, what are you doing, stop." Panchu replied "go away or I shall kill you"; Panchu then ran back to the "bari" of Kanai. Several witnesses have deposed to seeing Panchu running with a blood-stained "dao" in his hand. Panchu then sat down and cut himself on the neck with the dao; three witnesses deposed to this fact; there was one incised wound 6 inches long, 1 inch wide and about 1½ inches deep. Commencing at the back of the neck and coming round the right side of the neck; Dr. Daley said that his first impression was that the wound was not self-inflicted, but it was quite possible that it could have been self-inflicted with a curved instrument like the dao; the witnesses have described how Panchu cut himself and we have no doubt that the wound was self-inflicted; we have no doubt also that Panchu wounded Purna and killed Beraji; Panchu cross-examined none of the witnesses and called no witnesses on his behalf and refused to make any statement before the committing Magistrate; he said he would submit a written statement in defence at the trial; he did not do so but made a statement to the Judge that Kanai had killed his wife Beraji and he struck Panchu with the dao because people said Panchu had been intimate with Beraji; in his petition of appeal Panchu repeats this story; it is to be observed that Panchu does not account for the wounds on Purna in his statement before the Judge or in his petition of appeal; there is no evidence whatever to support this defence; eye-witnesses have been called who proved that the wounds on Purna, on Beraji and on himself were inflicted by him; it is also proved that Kanai was away working in the fields. The evidence against Panchu is clear and conclusive. Beraji was a girl of 14 and she was hacked to death on no provocation whatever; she was not even present when the altercation with Purna took place. We dismiss the appeal of Panchu and we confirm the sentence of death passed upon him by the Additional Sessions Judge.

AN AMERICAN EDITOR, Mr. John I.

Cook, publisher of the "Banner-Starkman," at Orendon, Texas, U. S. A., in a letter regarding Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy, says: "On one occasion I am sure I saved my life, curing me of a very bad attack of cramp colic." This remedy meets with the same success in the country as in America and never fails to give relief. For sale by

Smith Stanistreet and Co., Wholesale Agents, B. K. Paul and Co., Abdul Rahaman and Abdool Kareem, Calcutta.

LIFE IN ORYSTALS.
A FAIRY TALE OF SCIENCE.

MM. F. Di Brazza and P. Pirenne, in the "Revue Scientifique" for April 23 gives an account of the researches and conclusions of M. von Schönon, whose name is so intimately connected with the doctrine of life in crystals. M. von Schönon is the director of the Pathological Institute of the University of Naples, and his researches date from the time of Koch's famous experiments in investigating the nature of the consumption microbe. Among the products of secretion excretion of the bacteria in question, there are some which are particularly abundant. They are formed of albuminoid matter which becomes crystallised. The crystals present all the characteristics of the living being, and it is asserted that they are in a state of continual evolution. He renewed the experiments on inorganic crystals—minerals, igneous rocks, etc.—and came to the same conclusion. According to him, it is the young crystal which is alive. The old crystal is, as it were, in the fossil state. At the outset, like most people, he looked upon the crystal as an inert body, subject to chemical and physical laws, a body to which the idea of life can only be attached by the poetic temperament. But after the prolonged study of some 12,000 microphotographs obtained in the course of his labours, he believes that the crystal is an organised being in evolution like the plant and the animal with its own biology and pathology. "Bioplasm" is a term coined from "plasma" or "plasma," the formless elementary matter from which the developments of a cell take place. In the case of vegetables or animals, the plasma or bioplasm is composed of cells, fibres, vessels, and nerves, which together constitute the organs and tissues. The crystal has no organs, unless we consider its cells as such, but it represents a tissue in continual evolution. Bioplasm, Zooplasm, and Anthroplasm are the names given to Bioplasm according as it is applied to vegetables, animals, or to man. Von Schönon speaks of Petrioplasm as applied to rocks, and it may be Jaloplasm if uniform, Granuloplasm if granular, Filoplasm if thready in its nature, and so on. When it gives rise to a higher organisation we have Petro-cells, and these are easily studied, for the matter composing their nucleus is distinguished by its colour from the matter enveloping the nucleus.

THE BIRTH OF A CRYSTAL.

When a salt is dissolved in water until the liquid is saturated, and the temperature is then lowered, the crystals of salt are re-formed. This has hitherto been attributed to the operation of purely chemical and physical laws. But, according to Von Schönon, it arises from a series of vital phenomena of a very complicated character. As soon as the crystallisation begins a small globule is seen to emerge from the uniform mass. It is easily recognisable from the fact that its index of refraction is different from that of the liquid under observation. Within the globule is a slight petrioplasmic thread structure analogous to the chromatin in the formation of an animal and vegetable cells. Next appear tiny dark points called petrioblasts in the centre of dark matter called Deuteroloplasm, and on the surface of a light substance called Protholoplasm. It is from these two substances that crystal is formed. There are three different types of petrioblasts, two of which emerge from the globule and give birth to embryonic crystals, while the third, which remains within, also gives a crystal. A kind of struggle goes on between the two substances; the globule changes its form, receiving an angular increment, and this ring is in its turn deformed, forming an angle which is called the primitive dominant angle, because it gives the direction of the future crystal. Presently an angle is formed called the diagonal angle, and finally the intersection of the planes of these two opposite angles forms new angles called secondly. So that the axis of the crystal actually exists and may be seen on the photograph of the phenomenon at this stage. These are the formative stages of the crystal. The crystal can move and can reproduce itself, curiously enough, in three ways. A crystal of recent formation will divide into two which separate from each other by a rotary movement. Or the petrioblasts may develop, reach the surface of the crystal, continue to develop, and finally leave the home of their birth. Or a small crystal may be formed within its crystal mother, come to the surface, and issue forth by a compound rotary and progressive movement. Even here the struggle for existence is exemplified. When during their growth two crystals come into contact, the weaker is absorbed by the stronger, and of this phenomenon Von Schönon has obtained a striking photograph.

IS IT A FAIRY-TABLE?

Von Schönon holds that the appearance of real cells in the homogeneous solutions of salts is proof positive of spontaneous generation. Virchow's dictum "Omnis cellula ex cellula" is thus replaced by a rival "Omnis vivum ex plasmate." "Germ" is replaced by a vital force, the effect of which persists during the formation of the crystal, which is directed along its axis, and which harmonises and controls matter. Spontaneous generation may be cellular, as shown by the fact that cells appear in liquid which has been deprived of every trace of cells. Or again, it may be individual, for the individual crystal is born in the same liquid. The individual disappears in the solution, and afterwards reappears in its original form, and this phenomenon of disappearance is reproduced indefinitely, and on each occasion the signal of reappearance is given by the sudden emergence into being of the billform petrioplasm on which and in which the crystal is born. All minerals, except a few crystallised under the influence of heat, are of crystalline formation. Hence, if we are to attach any value to the conclusions of Von Schönon all minerals are colonies of beings which live or have lived. The authors of the paper in the "Revue Scientifique" are of opinion that this theory of life in crystals will throw some light on the remarkable experiments the results of which were communicated to the Royal Society in 1900 by Dr. Jagadis Chunder Bose. His doctrine of "response in metals" is to be found in a volume entitled "Response in the Living and Non-Living," published in 1902 by Living and Non-Living, Green. The metal by Messrs. Bose, excited by moist conductors, responses were exhibited in hand with strips of connected on the galvanometer metal through stimulus.

and the electrical response was thrown into evidence by the changes in the polarisation interfaces. So convinced is he of the accuracy of his deductions that he states that there is an absolutely complete parallelism between the phenomena of response in the organic and the inorganic. We are afraid that his speculations were not very warmly received by contemporary physicists or biologists, but it is remarkable that assertions tending to similar conclusions should arise from the investigation of a pathologist into the life-history of crystals.

AN ARSENIO MINE.

What is said to be the largest arsenic mine in the world and stated to be at present turning out 70 tons per month, is situated in Floyd County, Virginia, 17 miles from Christiansburg, the nearest railroad point. The number of persons employed at the mine is about 125, who are housed and supplied with the necessities of life by the company owning the mine. The camp is provided with electric lights, and the plant, which is considered the most modern in existence for the treatment of the ore, is driven by electric power.

THE POLICE DEFAMATION CASE.

In the case of defamation in which a native of Gubbis is prosecuted by the Police for certain allegations against the Police in connection with the Gubbis Murder Case, the examination of Mr. L. Krishna Rao and Mr. Nagappa is over. The cross-examination of some of the witnesses on the defence side is also over. The case has been adjourned to the 25th instant. We learn that Rao Bahadur C. Madasiah, the late I. G. of Police is believed to be very important.—"Mysore Standard."

LAKE MYSTERIES.

Prof. Bettont has recorded a series of remarkable phenomena on Lake Garda. They appear to be seismic in their nature, and yet are unaccompanied by any disturbance beyond the water line of the lake itself. By some mysterious but tremendous impulse the lake seems to be affected instantly throughout its entire length, breadth, and depth, and to be stirred by the strongest oscillations ever observed. These results in a pendulum-like and rhythmic motion, or a succession of such movements superimposed one on the other, and so affecting the lake that the level of the water is raised at one end and depressed at the other. These have gone on for several days. Lake Garda contains fifty million cubic yards of water. Similar agitations have been noted on Lake Lemano.

LOCUSTS AND MANGO TREES.

The mango forest in Khed-Shivapur, belonging to Government, the fruit of which is annually sold to the highest bidder and generally fetches from Rs. 2,000 to Rs. 3,000 has this year suffered so severely from locusts, who ate up all the leaves and thus caused the fruit to wither away for want of sufficient shade, that only some Rs. 400 were obtained for the preserve. Mango gardens in other directions have also been destroyed by these insects and their talukas, however, the mango trees either escaped the ravages of the locusts or the fruit had come to maturity before the locusts alighted on them and a greater destruction of the mango was thus averted.

SOLDIER AND A GARDENER.

Information reaches us to the effect that an apple gardener by name Narayana Raju living in Settipalya, 6 miles from Bangalore on the Cantonment side, has lodged a complaint stating that on the 8th instant a soldier assaulted him and bruised his arm under the following circumstances. On the day in question a British soldier and sycophant entered into his apple garden and plucked a lot of apples, and when the gardener questioned their conduct, he was roughly handled by the soldier, who it was afterwards ascertained belonged to the "G" Regiment of the Royal Horse Artillery. We also hear that a counter-complaint has been lodged stating that the gardener assaulted the soldier and the matter is under "confidential" enquiry. Why confidential?—"Mysore Standard."

SPONGE-FISHING IN CYPRUS.

The "Cyprus Journal" contains particulars regarding the sponge-fisheries of the island. It appears that a concession for 10 years of the exclusive right of sponge-fishing in Cyprus waters has been granted to the Agricultural Board, with a view to properly carrying on and developing the industry and of training Cypriots to become expert sponge-fishers. The Board will make their own arrangements for working the fisheries, and will pay to the revenue the average yearly rate received hitherto or one value of 1/10th of the sponges taken. The fisherman will be supplied by the Board with boats, provisions, and apparatus, and will receive a fair remuneration for their services. It is possible the Board may agree to lease certain portions of the territorial waters to persons or companies under well-considered regulations.

A STORY.

The following story is related in the columns of a Travancore paper, and Dewans in Native States have need to know it. We quote the following: When the present Dewan assumed charge, a European Military Officer in the State, having occasion to write a demi official, begun it with "My dear Dewan," in accordance with the form in use during the time of the former minister. The communication was returned through the Chief Secretary with the remark that the form of address was objectionable. The Military Officer carried the matter to the notice of H. H. the Maharajah, who promised to see to it. The Dewan, being asked by the Maharajah, informed the latter that the Military Officer in question was subordinate to the Dewan and should not, therefore, in official communications employ terms which are permissible in correspondence between officers of equal status. Eventually, the Military Officer had to yield.

The Government of India has for some time past been considering a proposal for the introduction of nickel coin to represent one anna in India, but so far no decision has been arrived at, and it has not even sufficiently advanced for reference to the Secretary of State for India.

A MARVEL OF SCIENCE.

MACHINE WHICH RECORDED KING EDWARD'S VOICE.

One of the many places of interest King Edward found time to visit during his recent stay at Copenhagen was the head offices of the Danish Telegraphphone Company—and it can by no means have been the least interesting place.

It was a few days after the King's visit, writes a Copenhagen correspondent, that I had a friendly conversation with Mr. Valdemar Poulsen, the inventor of the telegraphphone, the wonderful new talking machine, and managing director of the Telegraphphone Company.

In reply to my question what the King had thought of the telegraphphone, Mr. Poulsen took me at once to the apparatus, into the mouthpiece of which the King had delivered his opinion. King Edward's words were: "I am very much interested in having seen this wonderful machine, and I am sure that it will be of great benefit and value." The words were heard plainly enough through the tubes but I have once or twice had the pleasure of hearing King Edward speak, and his voice has struck me as being very musical, as was Mr. Gladstone's voice. I told Mr. Poulsen this, and with an "I beg your pardon" he made a small regulation of the apparatus. The words were repeated, and this time I recognised even in the quoted short sentence some of the music in the King's voice. I was told that the voice would have been just as distinct if I had been listening through a telephone 400 miles away.

Mr. Poulsen's invention is more than five years old, and has long ago been recognised by scientific men like Alexander Bell, Lord Kelvin, Sir William Preece, and many others. It is sufficient to point out that, while the human voice in Edison's phonograph is recorded on wax by a needle attached to a membrane which vibrates with the sound, Poulsen's telegraphphone records the voice solely by the influence of electro-magnetism on a thin wire or a thin sheet of steel.

The apparatus is a most useful servant, who will stand continued talking for half an hour without being tired out. In case you are going out and leave your telephone alone, the telegraphphone can be switched on to your telephone, and on your return the machine will explain who has called you up in your absence, and if any message has been left for you. If you have an important conversation by telephone, and would like to keep a record, not only of what you have said yourself but also of what has been said by your friend at the other end of the telephone wire, the telegraphphone will do it for you. You can also, of course, discharge your shorthand writer; the telegraphphone will do his work.

But the telegraphphone can also make itself useful in another and still more wonderful way, namely, as a letter writer. Against the box stands a thin and light steel disc, which can easily be put into a large envelope. This steel plate is placed in the apparatus and the machine is set going, while you dictate your letter through the speaking tube. If you want to read the letter over before posting it you can, of course, do so by the help of the two hearing tubes at the left on the box. There is not a single mark to be seen on the brightly-polished steel plate when it is removed from the machine, but the letter is there right enough, and will even stand rusting and rubbing with emery and oil without being affected. The only way to wipe the writing out is to pass a magnet over the plate, which can be used again any number of times. When the letter is received by the person to whom it has been addressed, it is again placed in a telegraphphone, and a human voice, perhaps hundreds and hundreds of miles away, repeats its words as clearly and distinctly as if the sender were in the same room.

AN EXCITING ENCOUNTER WITH DACOITS.

A correspondent writes from Madura:—Particulars of one of the most daring acts of a gang of dacoits who infest the Kodaikanal road, are just to hand. Finding that robberies and dacoities had become frequent, the Police were on the alert and implicated several "K. Ds." of the village of Chellampatti with being connected with the outrages. Warrants were out against some of these men and Police Inspector Sivasekara Aiyar, B. A., of the Nilacottah Division, whose duty it was to effect their arrest, sought the assistance of the Village Munsiff of Kalluttoo. The Village Munsiff sent an escort of 100 men and the Inspector, accompanied by a Station House Officer, a Constable, and this large retinue surrounded the village of Chellampatti at daybreak on Tuesday, and proceeded to search for the K. Ds. The unexpected arrival of the Police naturally created a stir, and the villagers who assembled in little knots were seen moving in different directions. The Police commenced the search and in the first house they visited they found some European clothing, Salt Department uniforms and other property reasonably believed to be stolen. In the second house they found a number of boxes and trunks, some house-breaking implements and cash to the extent of about Rs. 400 buried in a pit. While the search was in progress the Police received information that the dacoits were going to attack in large numbers, a fact which was quickly confirmed by a shower of stones and deafening cries of "kill, kill." At this unexpected turn in the proceedings, the escort, dispersed in confusion and the Inspector and the Head Constable issuing out of the house saw an infuriated mob making their way towards them. Approaching the Police they pelted them with stones and beat the Inspector with sticks. Drawing his revolver, the Inspector fired four rounds, but only one took effect, hitting a dacoit in the hand. With the object of recovering the property and rescuing some of their women who were detained in the house by order of the Inspector, the dacoits rushed at the Police and, wrenching the revolver from the hands of the Inspector, struck him on the neck with a bill hook. The Inspector who fled profusely, fell down in a swoon and the dacoits leaving him for dead ran to their houses to secure their property. A friendly shepherd concealed the Inspector in a granary to keep him out of harm's way. Getting scent of this, the dacoits, armed with sticks went to the house, where the Inspector lay concealed and, called on the owner to deliver the refugee, vowing that they would murder him. The shepherd pretended that he knew nothing

about the Inspector and after the ruffians had gone gave the Inspector a "cumbli," disguised in which he succeeded in making good his escape to Vilampatti, where his men were stationed.

Both the Inspector and the Constable lost their fire-arms and have sustained serious injuries. The Collector of Madura, I understand, has offered a reward of Rs. 100 for the arrest of three of the ring-leaders. The case has created a great sensation and further developments will be watched with interest.

MAIL NEWS.

Sir Lawrence Jenkins, Chief Justice of Bombay, and Lady Jenkins have arrived in London and are staying at Browne's Hotel, Albemarle Street.

Lieut. Peary has tried so often to reach the North Pole that he might be called the Perennial Arctic Explorer. He is now become a sort of institution. A Peary Arctic Club has been incorporated to provide funds for explorations in the Polar Sea headed by Lieut. Peary.

It appears from a report of the Marine Hospital Service, Vera Cruz, that the germ of yellow fever is really discovered at last. It has the form of a protozoan, similar to the parasite of malaria, and not to an ordinary bacterium. It goes through a cycle of changes analogous to those of the malarial germ, and its presence in the mosquito modifies the life of the insect in a way favourable to the spread of the disease.

The Berlin correspondent of the "Daily Telegraph" telegraphed yesterday:—Prince Adalbert, the Kaiser's third son, is at present cruising in the neighbourhood of the seat of war. He will visit Chemulpo and Seoul, where he will be received by the Emperor of Korea. His ship, the "Hertha," will then proceed to Tokyo, where a German torpedo-boat will await his arrival. Accompanied by his suite, Prince Adalbert will proceed to Peking, as the negotiations regarding his reception by the Emperor and the Dowager-Empress have been concluded. He will be received with royal honours.

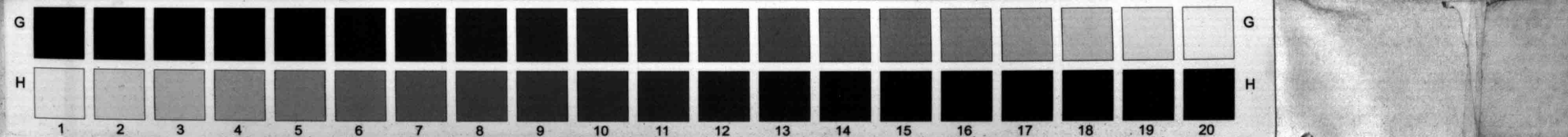
The New York correspondent of the "Times," writing on May 2, says:—Mr. Roosevelt has now a clear majority of the Republican National Convention. The whole number of delegates when complete is 994, and those already elected who are instructed for Mr. Roosevelt number 508. To the Democratic Convention only 294 delegates have as yet been chosen, of whom 86 have been instructed for Justice Parker and 52 for Mr. Hearst, while the remainder are uninstructed. But the Hearst Machine is rapidly going to pieces, and Justice Parker is strong even in districts where no instructions have been given.

A well equipped column, 250 strong, operating under Major Trenchard, has had a severe encounter with the natives of the Ohoho country, some 70 or 80 miles up the Enso River beyond Egwanga. The natives, who have been levying toll and menacing trade generally, fought stubbornly and are reported to have lost about 200 killed and wounded. About six villages were burned. The British casualties were four native soldiers killed and seven wounded. Major Trenchard's column is one of three sent to pacify the country lying between the Niger and Cross Rivers, with the object of opening up to commerce the Southern Nigeria hinterland.

As a contribution to the science of aerodynamics, a French writer has pointed out that birds are partly sustained in the air when flying by the difference of air pressure above and below. The beating of their wings causes a partial vacuum or diminution of air pressure on their backs between the wings, and a compression or increase of air pressure beneath them, which tends to support the bird in the air. Hence it is that birds can fly higher and fly longer distances than their wing-power alone could accomplish. This fact, he thinks, should be taken into account in designing flying machines, and by that he means machines that really fly or beat the air after the manner of birds.

The latest information from Somaliland, according to "Reuters Agency," is to the effect that the Sultan has improved his position as a result of the recent fighting with the Afar people. While there can be no doubt that the Sultan has suffered heavily, his power has by no means gone. Trustworthy information demonstrates that he still has in his possession three Maxim guns, 3/0 Lee-Enfield (repeating and single), and some 1,200 French rifles and guns of various sorts. Moreover, he is still receiving a regular supply of arms and ammunition through Italian territory. His exact whereabouts are unknown, but are somewhere in the north-east corner of the north of Africa. Owing to the breakdown of the transport it is impossible to maintain the troops in the interior any longer, and they are being gradually withdrawn to the coast. Of the 600 officers now in Somaliland it is expected that some 400 will leave at an early date.

Mrs. Flora Annie Steel, presiding on May 2 at the annual meeting of the National Indian Association at the Imperial Institute Road, Kensington, said that when they talked about the education of women they should be quite certain that they knew what they wanted. She was somewhat of a pessimist in regard to education in this country. In London alone there were over 14,000 women of the better class who were striving, by means of typewriting and other callings, to support themselves on less than 14s. a week. In face of that fact should they not ask themselves whether the education they proposed to give the women of India was the best that could be given? She hoped that the mistakes made in England would be avoided in India. Women should be made to remember that whether they were M.A.'s or B.A.'s they were women first. She regretted that the Englishwomen who went to live for years in India, and mix with the women there, did not learn the native languages. Her own experience of life in India urged her to warn her hearers that England was not perfect. They could scarcely overrate the difficulties into which the system of education in England would lead them. The annual report, which showed that the association had been very successful in its work, was adopted, and a resolution in support of its objects was carried.



INDIA IN PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

(Monday, May 2.)

The Tibet Mission.—Mr. Lambert asked the Secretary of State for India: If the Tibetan expedition has yet been recognised by the Dalai Lama, or if he has any information to show that the expedition will have to advance beyond Gyantse.

Mr. Brodick: The telegram of April 15 states that the Chinese Amban has written from Lhasa to Col. Younghusband expressing his intention of going to Gyantse accompanied by a representative of the Tibetan Government; I have nothing to add to the answers already given.

Mr. Lambert: Is the Amban recognised by the Dalai Lama?

Mr. Brodick: I presume, as he is accompanied by the Tibetan representative, he will be recognised by the Dalai Lama.

(Tuesday, May 3.)

The Sistan Boundary Commission.—Mr. Schwann asked the Secretary of State for India: If he will state what has been the expenditure up to date on the Sistan Boundary Commission, and what is the estimated cost up to the anticipated completion of its work next autumn; will any portion of such cost be defrayed by the Persian or Afghan Governments or by the British Treasury; is this Commission accompanied by any military escort; and, if so, of what strength.

Mr. Brodick: I am unable to give the figures of the expenditure on the Sistan Boundary Commission, but I hope to receive the information shortly. The cost is estimated at rather over 5,000, a month, and, as my predecessor stated in answer to a question last year, will fall on Indian revenues. The escort with the Mission consists of one troop of Native cavalry and two companies of Native infantry.

(Wednesday, May 4.)

The Tibet Mission.—Mr. Lambert asked the Secretary of State for India: Whether the Chinese Amban and representative of the Tibetan Government have power, on reaching Gyantse, to treat and settle the differences between India and Tibet.

Mr. Brodick: The Chinese Amban, as representing the suzerain Power, has authority to treat with the British mission. As to the powers of the Tibetan representative who may accompany the Amban I have at present no information. As regards the settling of differences, no doubt references to the Governments respectively represented will be necessary.

The New Batteries for the Army in India.—Mr. James Hope asked the Secretary for War: Whether he can say approximately when the orders will be given for the new batteries to be made by private manufacturers for the Army in India.

Mr. Arnold-Forster: I am not yet in a position to state definitely when the new orders for the new batteries will be given, but every effort is being made to facilitate progress in this direction.

(Thursday, May 5.)

The Cultivation of Rubber Trees.—Mr. Griffith-Boscawen asked the Secretary of State for India: Whether the Government of India are planting rubber trees in Burma and also in other places on an extensive scale; and, if so, whether, with a view of preventing injury to private enterprises and having regard to the protests made by companies and individuals interested in rubber plantations, the Government will reconsider their decision.

Mr. Brodick: The Indian Forest Department is engaged in experiments with rubber trees of different kinds in Burma, Assam, and Bengal. The most important experiment is with the Para rubber tree in the Mergui district of Lower Burma. It will be on a sufficient scale to test the commercial value of this species of rubber in Burma. I am not aware that any protests have been made by individuals or companies interested in rubber plantations in India, and I am not prepared to order the discontinuance of the experiments which, if successful, will be of great benefit to India and to the large forest estates of the Indian Government.

Coolie Labour in Foreign Countries.—Sir Charles Dilke asked the Secretary of State for India: Whether he will lay before the House a return showing in what cases and on what grounds the Government of India has, since the date of the commission of inquiry into the coolie system in British Guiana appointed in 1870, forbidden or, having once allowed, has stopped the export of indentured Indian coolie labour to foreign countries or to British colonies.

Mr. Brodick: The only cases since 1870 in which the export of indentured Indian labour, after having once been allowed, has been stopped by the Government of India have been those of certain foreign colonies, and the cases of refusal by the Government of India to permit emigration have been confined to foreign countries, and do not include any British colonies. In view of international susceptibilities, it would not be expedient to publish the correspondence showing the grounds on which this action was taken.

Competition for State Employment in India.—Col. Nolan asked the Secretary of State for India: If he can now state to what extent competition has been abolished for entrance to civil State employment in India; if the abolition of competition applies only to natives of India; and if he will state into whose hands will fall the patronage which may arise from the abolition of competition.

Mr. Brodick: I have not yet received the papers promised by the Government of India, and am not in a position to add anything to the answer given on my behalf by the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs on March 21 last to the question on this subject of the hon. member for West Denbighshire.

Young Soldiers and the Indian Hot Season.—Capt. Norton asked the Secretary of State for War: Whether it has been brought to his notice that a number of young soldiers, forming part of this year's Indian relief, will not be landed in Bombay until late in this month, when the hot season has commenced; and if he can say why arrangements were not made to send these young soldiers, going on Indian service for the first time, earlier in the troping season.

Mr. Arnold-Forster said: The hon. and gallant member doubtless refers to the drafts

on the "Assaye," which was intended to leave England on March 20, a date not considered too late for young soldiers to proceed to India. The delay of a month, caused by an accident to the ship, was not considered sufficient to justify cancelling the departure of the drafts. It must be remembered that the Commander-in-Chief in India has discretionary powers as to accommodating in the hills and soldiers who are considered unfit for a summer in the plains. The women and children were given the option of going out next winter, an option of which a very few availed themselves.

NOTICES OF MOTION, &c.
Mr. Milvain.—Tibet Mission.—To call attention to the British Mission to Tibet; and to move that, in the opinion of this House, it is not desirable to send armed missions into friendly States in order to secure the fulfilment of treaties.

Sir Frederick Banbury.—Tibet.—To call attention to the British Mission to Tibet; and to move that, in the opinion of this House, before operations are further advanced, full information of the attitude of the suzerain Power should be given to Parliament.

NOTES ON THE RUSSO-JAPANESE WAR.

RUSSIAN SUBMARINES.

M. Bubnoff, the well known Naval Engineer, has just received from the Russian Government the sum of 25,000 roubles, or £2,700, as a reward for his designs of submarine boats.

JAPAN PURCHASES A SUBMARINE.

A shareholder in the Lake Torpedo Boat Company says that the Japanese Government has bought from the Company the submarine "Protector." Both Russia and Japan, he adds, made offers for the boat, but Japan outbid Russia.

THE DAMAGED RUSSIAN BATTLESHIPS.

According to a St. Petersburg message in the "Eclair," the repairs of the battleship "Retvisan" are not proceeding as rapidly as was expected, and the vessel will not be fit for service for several months yet. The repairs to the "Pobeda" will also take a long time.

THE RUSSIAN VESSEL "BOGATYR."

The "Bogatyr," which persistent rumour in St. Petersburg reports to have been totally wrecked, is one of the four fighting vessels at Vladivostok, a protected cruiser built at Stettin and finished in 1902, of 6,750 tons and over 23 knots speed. The three armoured cruisers "Gromoboi," "Rossia" and "Rurik" which are also at Vladivostok are all slower vessels and the design and protection of the two last-named are very faulty.

FOUR SUBMARINES AT PORT ARTHUR.

St. Petersburg, April 27th.—The addition of four submarines to the Russian squadron at Port Arthur means a new and formidable weapon for the defence of the stronghold. The despatch of the boats in sections by railway has been kept entirely secret. Even to-day many people in St. Petersburg are inclined to doubt the report of their presence at Port Arthur. Officials, however, accept the information as trustworthy, and assert that a close blockade of Port Arthur is now too dangerous for Admiral Togo to attempt.

WOMEN TO THE FRONT.

A semi-official Moscow organ publishes the interesting intelligence that the "Minister of War has given orders to enrol, as private, in the rank of the 1st Rifle Regiment of Her Majesty, Madame Pusepp, daughter of Colonel Maksimov-Kondurov, who will shortly leave Riga for the Far East." It is difficult to say whether this item has, in any way, increased the enthusiasm for the War, but it very naturally recalls the exploits of three women at Blagovestchensk in 1900, when volunteers were called for to remove a number of boats from a position in the river exposed to the fire of the Chinese to a place of safety where there would be no fear of the enemy capturing them and using them as a means of crossing to attack the town. It stands officially recorded that not a man in the town would volunteer, and that three women tucked up their skirts and brought in the boats under fire, one of them having her clothing pierced by bullets. For this deed the Tsar granted a special mark of distinction. There has been an eager rush of women volunteers as Red Cross nurses for the front, but this is the first time one hears of women volunteering to serve in the ranks. It is given on the authority of the "Moscow Gazette," which is a semi-official paper, and usually well informed about matters beyond the reach of the ordinary newspaper in Russia.

THE JAPANESE DISASTERS.

The Japanese have at last experienced their first serious disaster. The cruiser "Yoshino" has been rammed and sunk by the "Kasagi," and on the same day the big battleship "Hatsuse" has struck on a mine and sunk with only three hundred of her crew saved. The "Hatsuse" was launched in 1899 and is of 15,000 tons displacement. Her speed was 19 knots and her armament consisted of four 12-inch guns, fourteen 6-inch and forty smaller guns. She was built at Elswick and is a replica in general outline of Sir William White's Majestic class, with the absence of the single above water torpedo tube. It will be noted that she was half as big again as the "Petrovskiy," and in consequence her loss more than neutralises the advantage gained by the destruction of that Russian battle ship. If the Baltic fleet is to come round, as Capt. Malan surmises, to make another attempt in conjunction with the Vladivostok fleet to recover the mastery of the sea, her loss will be a serious handicap for Japan. Possibly every effort will now be made to capture Port Arthur and put that potential reserve of maritime power effectually "hors de combat" for the rest of the war.

The "Yoshino" was a second class protected cruiser of 4,180 tons with four 6-inch guns and eight 4.7-inch guns. She could steam 23 knots so was one of the fastest vessels in the fleet. But the loss of these two vessels in no way revolutionises the main features of the situation. The Japanese have still such a naval preponderance that they can afford to send their ships into port for repairs or for rest, which in itself is no slight advantage. The only possible danger, which is not immediate,

is the arrival of the Baltic fleet and efficient repairs having been effected to the ships now lying disabled in the Port Arthur docks. The land operations are still only to be watched through a glass darkly. The Japanese are still approaching places which they were said to have occupied long ago. All that can be confidently assumed is that they are converging on Liao-Yang by different roads, but whether or not the Russians will make a decided stand there, or continue their retreat avoiding decisive battle, remains to be seen.

CUTTINGS FROM A JAPAN PAPER.

We make the following cuttings from the "Japan Times" of April 19 received by the last mail.

RUSSIANS AT VLADIVOSTOK

AND NEIGHBOURHOOD.
The Gausan correspondent of the "Tokyo Asahi" wires the following news obtained from several Koreans, who have arrived there either from Vladivostok or North Korea: Among the Vladivostok forts, the one, No. 6, was damaged by the bombardment by the Japanese on March 8. The troops at that port are demoralized and two-thirds of the inhabitants have fled from the town. Instructions have been issued by the military governor of Vladivostok for the firing of the town and a retreat to Manchuria in the event of the city falling into the hands of the Japanese. The four Russian warvessels at the port often put to sea during the day, but return in the evening. Mines are not yet laid in the approaches to the harbour, and it appears that the Russians rely chiefly on the forts for defence. Abatis have been placed at the forts bombarded by the Japanese on the last occasion, Koreans being employed for the work. Provisions are not yet very scarce, the prices of commodities being only 20 per cent. higher than in time of peace. The troops of all arms stationed at Vladivostok number 7,000, and it is easy to infer that no material reinforcements have been received by the garrison of the town since the outbreak of the war. The Russians at Novokievsk, on Possiet Bay, do not exceed 1,000 in number. A number of mountain guns are mounted at a certain point on the Tu-man gang.

The "Asahi" also learns that Russia has placed in the district enclosed by the Tu-mang and the Hai-lan-ho a squadron of cavalry and two companies of infantry, the latter principally composed of Russianized Koreans.

CONDITION OF MANCHURIA.

The following account of the condition of Manchuria, based on the story of a certain person who arrived at Soul, Korea, from Chefoo a few days ago, is wired by the Sou correspondent of the "Nichi Nichi": The Russians are commanding horses and provisions not only in Manchuria, but also in Mongolia. Bakeries are established in every Russian town along the Chinese Eastern Railway, but the amount produced, though augmented with bread from home, is not sufficient to feed the troops. Under these circumstances, prices of commodities have

trebled as compared with those ruling in January last. Some 20,000 Chinese coolies have fled from the interior of Manchuria to the outside of the fighting area, and are now in a helpless condition. The use of the Chinese Eastern Railway is now confined to military purposes and denied to ordinary passengers. Every bye-way is placed under troops, who are stationed 10 chains apart to guard against possible attacks by the mounted bandits. It is reported that the two leaders of the latter, Tu Li-shan and Tien I-pan, have been brought over by the Russians, who seem to spare neither labour nor money in trying to get rid of the bandits. Governor-General Isang, of Mukden, is now confined in his yamen and is practically helpless. Irritated by the threatening demands pressed upon him by the Russians, he seems to be in profound sympathy with the late Chang Shun, the recent Governor-General of Kirin, who committed suicide a few weeks ago. It is true that the Chinese in Manchuria as a whole are anxiously awaiting the arrival of the Japanese troops, but a small number of the natives are facilitating the Russians in various ways, being, of course, in the pay of the latter. Very tempting allowances are made by the Russians to the mounted bandits in their employ, the latter's leaders and subordinate officers, for instance, receiving 600 or 600 roubles and 70 roubles respectively a month, while even their men get 19 to 20 roubles. Coolies are said to receive equally liberal pay. General Kuropatkin, who arrived at Liao-yang on the 28th or 29th ult., was to have left for Feng-hwang-cheng some time afterwards.

LEOPARD DEPREDATORS.

Three appears to be no lack of shikar in Kulu at present. Leopards are the terror of the shepherds and their flocks so that these worthy gentlemen have bethought them of keeping as many sheep dogs as possible and the tables have been somewhat turned on master spots. The other day, according to a Kulu correspondent, a leopard, which had killed seven goats belonging to "Guddis" on the Praur mountain, was himself killed by three large sheep dogs. Another leopard, who seized a dog in the village of Balu was at once attacked by every dog in the village, about a score of them. A huge mongrel between a sheep dog and a fighting bull terrier got fixed on to his throat and tore it open, the rest of the pack worrying wherever they could get a bite. The leopard had no chance and was killed in a few minutes. Three bears were also shot in Bilan on the 29th of last month and another bear was shot on the 5th. Three more leopards were shot in the Chauri district of Mandi by shepherds, whose flock they were stalking.

Advices from the Frontier state that Major Bird's successful operation on the Ameer's palm has created such an excellent impression at Kabul that the Ameer has already expressed a desire to obtain from India the services of a European Doctor and Lady Doctor and several native hospital assistants for Afghanistan.

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6. DR. R. G. KAR, L. R. C. P., (Edin.), Secretary, Calcutta Medical School, says:— "... Healing Balm has given me immense satisfaction in cases of Gonorrhoea."

7. DR. T. U. AHMED, M. B., C. M. L. S. A., (London), His Majesty's Vice-Consul, says:— "... I can recommend this Healing Balm strongly to the suffering public."

8. DR. R. MONTER, M. B., C. M., (Edin.), Resident Surgeon, Park Street, Government Charitable Dispensary, says:— "... Healing Balm was used by me in several cases of Gonorrhoea and was found successful."

9. DR. R. A. FERMIE, L. R. C. P. & S. etc., says:— "... I used Healing Balm for Gonorrhoea in a number of my patients and found it very efficacious."

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One Kupuswamy Naidu of Triplicane, charged his son Kistnaswamy Naidu with insult and criminal intimidation before Mr. W. E. T. Clark, Chief Presidency Magistrate, Egmore. Mr. Ranganatham Naidu, Attorney-at-law, appeared for the complainant and Mr. P. Ananda Charlu for the accused, who is an under-graduate now studying for the L.M.B.S. Mr. Ranganatham Naidu stated that the dispute between the father and son arose in connection with some property, while Mr. Ananda Charlu explained that because the father did not like the girl whom the son had married there had been misunderstandings and quarrels among them. Since it was a dispute between father and son, the Court with the consent of the Counsel on both sides asked the parties concerned to forget and forgive.

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Telegraphic Address, "Dr. Paul," Calcutta.

MEDICAL OPINION:—

Dr. Hem Chandra Dutta, L. M. S., Medical Officer, Bhagavat Doyal Singh's Charitable Dispensary, Champur, Daltongunge, Palamow, writes:— "I have tried your 'Phtisis Inhalation' in several cases of consumption with satisfactory results, and I have found that before the formation of cavities in the lungs the 'Inhalation' is highly efficacious. I heartily recommend it to the public. Our professional brethren would do well to give this remedy a fair trial in their practice. Please send me again a bottle of your 'Inhalation' per V. P. P. for another patient of mine and thereby oblige."

Dr. A. N. Roy Chowdhury, M. B., Calcutta, writes:— "I have tried your 'Phtisis Inhalation' in several cases of consumption and, I am glad to say, the results have been highly satisfactory in the first stage of the disease. I always recommend it to my patients. Please supply a bottle of your 'Inhalation' to the bearer whose brother has been suffering from consumption for the last five months and oblige."

Dr. Eduljee Cowasjee, L. M. S., Sir Jamsetjee's Sanitarium, Khandalla, Bombay Presidency, writes:— "As I have found your 'Phtisis Inhalation' beneficial, I always recommend it to my patients. Please send me per V. P. P. one bottle of your 'Inhalation' or my wife who has been suffering 'from symptoms to me of the first stage of consumption'."

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